

Entertainment



WEEKLY



WATCH
WHAT HAPPENS
WHEN

Andy Cohen

GUEST-EDITS
THE ISSUE

Featuring

HIS EXPLOSIVE AND
EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH
MADONNA

GIRL TALK WITH TV QUEENS
**TARAJI P. HENSON &
CONNIE BRITTON**

HIS BROMANTIC ROAD TRIP WITH
JOHN MAYER

PLUS

Unleashed!
**ANDY'S
DOG
TELLS ALL**
WACHA DISHES
ON THE CELEBS HE
LOVES (TO LICK!)

AUG. 14, 2015 • #1376

OSCAR ISAAC

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THE
TOP 10 THINGS
WE LOVE
THIS WEEK

The Must List

▼ Jesse Eisenberg and Jason Segel



1

MOVIES
**THE END OF
THE TOUR**

• Watching two dudes debate everything from fame to TV to Alanis Morissette doesn't necessarily scream compelling. But when it's Jason Segel as David Foster Wallace and Jesse Eisenberg as David Lipsky—the journalist sent to interview him—it's downright thrilling. (R)

The Must List

2
→



2 MOVIES THE DIARY OF A TEENAGE GIRL

• Alexander Skarsgård, Kristen Wiig, and Bel Powley star in this frank, freewheeling portrait of a precocious teenager's sexual awakening in 1970s San Francisco. (R)

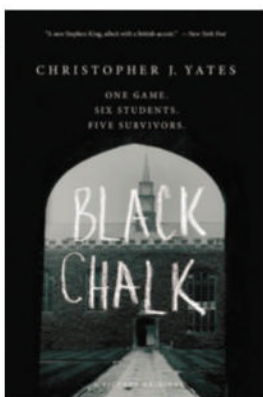
3
→



3 MUSIC SEX&DRUGS & ROCK& ROLL songs

• Whatever you think of Denis Leary's FX comedy, you can't argue with the soundtrack. The Leary-penned tunes are all winners, particularly when costar Elizabeth Gillies takes the lead, as she does on the gritty rock ballad "New York 2015."

4
→



4 BOOKS BLACK CHALK, by Christopher J. Yates

• This riveting psychological thriller follows a group of Oxford University students as their game of dares reaches a terrifying, fatal precipice years after graduation. Read it fast: Ron Howard already snapped up the movie rights.

5
→



5 MOVIES SHAUN THE SHEEP MOVIE

• From the creators of *Wallace & Gromit*, this Claymation caper follows Shaun and his flock on their madcap journey to the big city. It'll make you feel warm and fuzzy without a single word of dialogue. (PG)

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The Must List



6

TV DIFFICULT PEOPLE

● Julie Klausner and Billy Eichner star as two narcissistic comedians dealing with the frustrations of life in New York City (cyclists, tourists, children with ridiculous names). You'll feel guilty for liking them, but difficult people have never been so fun. (Hulu)

7

MUSIC "RESTLESS," New Order

● On the first single from the classic gloom-poppers' upcoming album, Bernard Sumner warmly croons, "How much do you need?" The answer: plenty more, just as long as it's as kinetic and moody as this vintage-sounding cut.

8

BOOKS EW's MOVIE REUNIONS

● Forgive us for the self-promotion, but we're excited to present this collection of 22 of the greatest reunions created for this magazine, available on newsstands today. Check out the casts of *Clueless*, *Mystic Pizza*, *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*, and more.

9

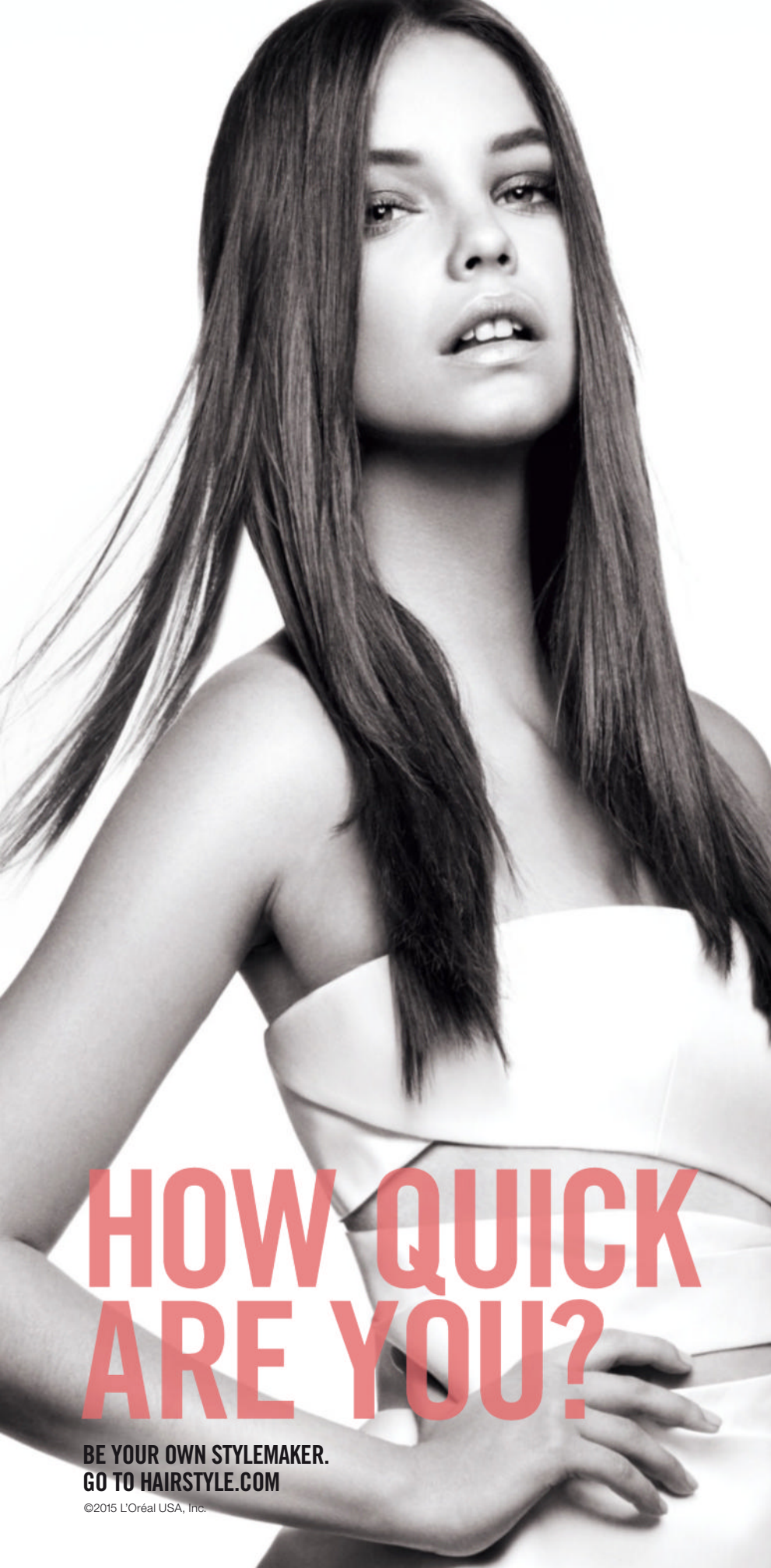
MUSIC "STARE," Prince

● With snappy horns and a slinking bass line, Prince's new single is one of his funkier—and most fun—in years. It ain't EDM, but in a perfect world "Stare" would be the soundtrack to every dance party for the rest of 2015.

10

GAMES HER STORY

● Once you start this addictive murder mystery, which allows you to search through police interrogation videos to find a man's killer, you'll abandon everything else until you solve it. If any digital app qualifies as a page-turner, this is it. (Available on PC, Mac, and iOS)



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ON THE COVER

Andy Cohen photographed exclusively for EW by Robert Trachtenberg on July 17, 2015, at the New York Palace in New York City

WARDROBE: SAM SPECTOR; GROOMING: CAROLINE BLANCHARD; SET DESIGN: CHAD DZIEWIOR/BRYDGES MACKINNEY; LOCATION: THE CHAMPAGNE SUITE IN THE TOWERS AT THE NEW YORK PALACE; SHIRT: DUNHILL; BOW TIE: ERMENEGILDO ZEGNA; STUDS: BROOKS BROTHERS; BOXERS: J. CREW; WATCH: ROLEX

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With prestige parts in new movies, accomplished actors including Blythe Danner, Ian McKellen, and Lily Tomlin are proof positive that Hollywood may be starting to get over its age problem.

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The choreography! The set list! The nuns on stripper poles! Andy gets the scoop on the pop star's upcoming *Rebel Heart* trek.

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How Andy's go-to comedian mastered the art of sending up Bravo's biggest personalities.
BY KEVIN O'DONNELL



Guest editor Andy Cohen;
(inset) Henry Goldblatt



The "Real" Editor of EW (This Week)



Dear friends of EW, I am going to cede this space to the handsome guy on the left who actually did the majority of the work on the issue. Here are Andy's thoughts after spending some time at the helm.

FIRST TIME I WAS FEATURED IN EW

There was a picture of Bette Midler's opening night at Radio City, and I was in the background of the photo. I was a producer at CBS News at the time, and I was like, "Oh my God, I am in *Entertainment Weekly*." [Real editor's note: Naturally we had to find the pic. Check it out below.]

BEST PART OF EDITING EW

Coming up with stories and pitching you guys. I've always been fascinated by magazines. I love that I got to write the John Mayer piece myself and to interview Madonna. (I've never interviewed her!) The issue is representative of a lot of my passions—now it's a memento.

WORST PART OF EDITING EW

Getting words cut. I'm still fighting for a few lines from the Madonna interview! [Real editor's note: Relax, Andy! You can check out some extras on EW.com in the next few days.]

THE HOUSEWIFE EW MOST RESEMBLES

Carole Radziwill (*The Real Housewives of New York City*), because she's interested in a lot, she's a writer and well-rounded. [Real editor's note: We love Carole, but we've always thought of ourselves as a *Lisa Vanderpump* with *NeNe* rising.]

WHAT MY DOG, WACHA, THINKS OF THIS ISSUE

If I leave it in the wrong place, he might rip it up.

FINAL GRADE

Oh my God, I'd give myself an A! I mean, I would be surprised if you didn't ask me to do it again. This is a killer issue.



REAL EDITOR'S FINAL WORDS

Andy's absolutely right. From his interview with Madonna to his chat with Connie Britton and Taraji P. Henson, I'm really proud of all of his efforts. Special thanks also go to: senior editor **Kevin O'Donnell**, who brainstormed many of these ideas and packaged the issue in such an expert fashion; senior writer **Tim Stack**, who wrote the excellent profile of Andy; senior associate photo editor **Natalie Gialluca**, who arranged Andy's terrific photo shoot (check out some awesome outtakes at [facebook.com/entertainmentweekly](https://www.facebook.com/entertainmentweekly)); and deputy design director **Keir Novesky**, who made the whole thing look so damned good.

Henry Goldblatt

HENRY GOLDBLATT

P.S. To my bosses: I like my job a lot. Please don't give it to Andy.



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THE WEEK'S
BEST

Sound Bites

TWEET OF THE WEEK

Oh no someone got Tim Riggins
gay panic soap opera all over
my cool Rachel McAdams detective
thriller again @RonanFarrow

**"Join the IMF and
see the world.
On a screen. From
a closet."**

—Benji (Simon Pegg), talking to
himself...in a closet, in *Mission:
Impossible Rogue Nation*

**"Steve, I need
you to stop playing
with that typewriter
and that TV screen and
help us with something
on the camp computer."**

—Beth (Janeane Garofalo)
on *Wet Hot American Summer:
First Day of Camp*

**"It was like the
Scream painting
mixed with a Calvin
Klein campaign."**

—Cat Deeley, summing up a contemporary
routine, on *So You Think You Can Dance*

**"Jared looks like he
would rather take
a back-alley beating
with, you know, a
plumber's wrench
than go on this date."**

—JJ on *Bachelor
in Paradise*

**"He has 44 Murder, She
Wrote's in various stages of being
watched. If that is not a cry for
help, Mags, I don't know what is."**

—Emma (Jessica St. Clair), snooping
through ex Mark's (Keegan-Michael Key) DVR,
on *Playing House*

**"A new app
can tell marijuana
users how
high they are. It's
called the
Domino's Pizza
app."**

—Conan O'Brien on *Conan*

**"Honey, you have
orbited the Earth.
I'm pretty sure
you can handle
carpooling, meat-
loaf, and laundry."**

—Trudy (Odette Annable)
to her husband,
Gordo (Bret Harrison),
on *The Astronaut
Wives Club*

GAROFALO: SAEED ADYANI; PEGG: KETH HAMSHERE; JJ: BOB PANICO/ABC; DEELEY: ADAM ROSE/Fox; ST. CLAIR: ROBYN VON SWANK/USA NETWORK; O'BRIEN: JOE PUGLISE; ANNABLE: SAEED ADYANI



0

**DRUGS ARE AVAILABLE THAT
PREVENT OR SLOW ALZHEIMER'S**

**TOGETHER, WE CAN
CHANGE THAT NUMBER**

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News+Notes

POP'S TV TAKEOVER

Our favorite performers have long moonlighted as movie stars (Hello, Elvis!), but this fall, music's biggest names are ditching the stadium for the soundstage and hitting the small screen. By Gillian Telling



► Lady Gaga is set to headline the fifth installment of *AHS*

...

Unbeknownst to his legions of fans, Ed Sheeran is worlds away from the recording studio. Centuries away, to be exact. The singer is currently dressed in a medieval costume on the Cardiff, Wales, set of FX's upcoming series *The Bastard Executioner*, on which he'll appear as Sir Cormac, a deadly protégé of a high-ranking church elder in the 14th century. "It's nice to challenge yourself," says Sheeran, a favorite among teenyboppers. "It doesn't mean everyone who likes my music is going to like this. It means that I'm doing something different, rather than doing some rom-com, which is what I think

people would expect me to do."

He's the latest to join a parade of musicians invading television this fall—Lady Gaga will star on FX's *American Horror Story: Hotel*, Nick Jonas and Ariana Grande have both enrolled in Fox's *Scream Queens*, and Demi Lovato will appear on El Rey's *From Dusk Till Dawn: The Series*. The move to TV can offer real benefits for top-tier talents and the shows that enlist them. "These are indi-

viduals who can entrance an entire stadium," says Sharon Klein, EVP of casting at 20th Century Fox Television. "It's what you want in a TV star, not to mention they have massive social-media presences. That, you can't buy." (She's right: Gaga alone has nearly 50 million Twitter followers.)

For the stars, it's a chance to reach a new audience—and flex a new muscle. "They get in front of people on these shows that maybe aren't listening to their music," Klein says. "And when they're doing multiple episodes, they're really building a family."

Sheeran's role—which was written for him by creator Kurt Sutter—may be outside his comfort zone, but Lady Gaga easily fits into the outré world of *AHS*. (Her exact arc remains a secret.) "She wrote me and said she loved the show, and asked

if I'd consider putting her on it," co-creator Ryan Murphy said at Comic-Con last month of casting *Mother Monster* on the anthology's fifth installment. "I wrote back: 'YES!' When you work with someone like her, you sign up for something larger than life."

Director Robert Rodriguez, who worked with Gaga on his movies



► Demi Lovato will appear on *From Dusk Till Dawn*



▲ Nick Jonas will play frat boy Boone on *Scream Queens*

Machete Kills and *Sin City: A Dame to Kill For*, can vouch for her on-set star power. It's something he says she shares with "Cool for the Summer" singer Lovato, who will appear as "a total badass" on his supernatural thriller *From Dusk Till Dawn*. "I gravitate towards people like Demi and Gaga—there's a level of confidence and strength that is

proven in situations that would make most people run for cover," he says. "That fearlessness and showmanship makes the best actors."

As for world tours and recording demands that leave these musicians with, oh, zero free time? "We work around it," said Murphy, who filmed Grande's *Scream Queens* scenes after the bulk of the premiere was shot. "Gaga's schedule is so bananas crazy that she gave us a huge window, and we're going to shoot all her episodes then. She likes to do one thing at a time, so when she's acting, she's acting."

Sheeran's filming happened to fall during a break in his schedule. "Ed decided to forgo some of his time off to do the show," his manager Stuart Camp says. The sacrifice pales in comparison with Sheeran's current wardrobe concerns. "It's

quite hard to pee," he says of his medieval tights. "I haven't even tried to go number two. That's going to be very hard."

Additional reporting by Kevin O'Donnell, Lynette Rice, and Stephanie Schomer



◀ Ariana Grande joins *Scream Queens* as Chanel #2



◀ Ed Sheeran flexes his medieval muscles on *The Bastard Executioner*

How Not To Conduct an Interview

In the past two weeks, three of Hollywood's leading ladies have been at the receiving end of awkward, inappropriate questions that none of their male costars have had to endure. For those who need a Journalism 101 refresher, here are some helpful CliffsNotes. **By Cristina Everett**



• LESSON 1: DON'T HIT ON HER

During a *Fantastic Four* interview, Steve J. Rickman of Atlanta's Rock 100.5 Morning Show dished out creepy comments to Kate Mara, from "You're way, way hot. Why'd you cut the hair?" to "I'm a toe guy. Your toes are fine." In the future, maybe keep the "compliments" to yourself.



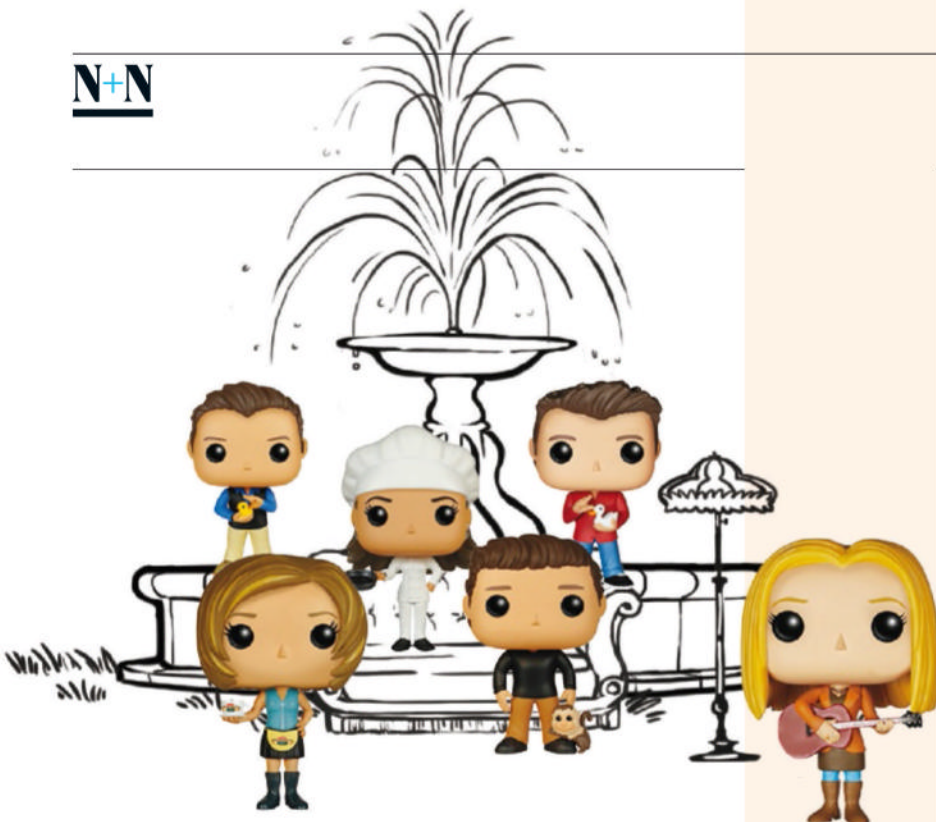
• LESSON 2: DON'T IMPLY SHE'S STUPID

The hosts at *Good Day Sacramento* hurled insults at Cara Delevingne, asking the *Paper Towns* star if she'd read the John Green novel the film is based on (she had) and if she was "exhausted" because she wasn't visibly excited. Note: Don't tell a woman to "smile" unless you want trouble.



• LESSON 3: DON'T CALL HER SKANKY

An Australian radio host took *Trainwreck* star Amy Schumer to task for her semiautobiographical role as a woman who has a string of one-night stands. "Do you have the word 'skanky' in America?" he inquired. Yes, and we also have "ignorant" and "judgmental." Thanks for asking!



Your New Best *Friends*

Funko's mod update on the bobblehead is the desktop topper du jour for pop culture fanatics. Next up? Ross, Rachel & Co. **By Natalie Abrams and Marc Snetiker**

... Could we be any more excited? Funko's Pop! Vinyl line—the adorable film and TV collectibles recognizable by their squared-off heads and round black eyes—will introduce all six *Friends* this fall. (Also included: the chick, the duck, and Marcel.) With the Central Perk gang, the tiny-toy company adds one of TV's most recognizable casts to its stable, which already boasts 3,000 pieces that have sold

40 million units in four years. "At first we had to call licensors and kind of beg them," says CEO Brian Mariotti. "Now it's kind of become a badge of honor to become a Pop!" Their popularity owes greatly to a whimsical uniform style, a fair price point (about \$10), and—perhaps most vital—a "something for everyone" approach. "You

have to have the huge *Walking Dead* or *Game of Thrones* items, but you also need *Firefly* or *Dodgeball*," says Funko VP of creative Ben Butcher. (In early 2015 the company announced it had locked down the rights to another major franchise after five years of negotiations, closing a deal with Warner Bros. to develop a just-launched *Harry Potter* collection.) So what took them so long to immortalize the *Friends* characters? "These figures are better when they're crazy-looking," Mariotti says. "Everyone on that show is just really good-looking, so we needed to get the details just right. We had to add that extra level of *Friends*-ness. I know, that's not even a word." Spoken like a true Geller.

The Best-sellers

Three of Funko's top toys, led by No. 1 seller Baby Groot



BABY GROOT
FROM GUARDIANS
OF THE GALAXY



BATMAN



UNMASKED
DARTH VADER



▲ *Friends'* Jennifer Aniston, David Schwimmer, Courteney Cox, Matt LeBlanc, Lisa Kudrow, and Matthew Perry

PRETTY LITTLE ALL GROWN UP

THE SEASON 6

summer finale of *Pretty Little Liars* (Aug. 11) not only promises to reveal the true identity of "A"—where have we heard *that* one before?—but also sets the stage for a more mature chapter in the girls' lives. When the series returns in early 2016, its timeline will jump five years into the future, with the wine-sipping liars in pursuit of careers. "Their styles reflect where they are professionally," says creator I. Marlene King. And as hard as it is to believe, they might even owe some of their new success to "A." As King puts it, "They handle pressure better than girls who haven't been locked in a demented dollhouse." —*Samantha Highfill*



FIRST LOOK

FOLLOW THE NEWS & NOTES TEAM

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@samhighfill, @shirklesxp, @jmdornbush

LIARS,

Shay Mitchell,
Lucy Hale, Ashley
Benson, and
Troian Bellisario



The Gang's All Here

What's better than keeping up with your favorite stars on social media? Keeping up with whomever *they're* keeping up with. Here are the week's best reunions.

By Jonathon Dornbush



FULL HOUSE

Per John Stamos' Twitter, at least one pair of twins will return for *Fuller House*: Nicky and Alex, played by Blake and Dylan Tuomy-Wilhoit—who are now 24!



XENA: WARRIOR PRINCESS

Lucy Lawless (right) maintains she isn't involved in the rumored *Xena* reboot, but the star stays true to her warrior roots—and to costar Renee O'Connor (left).



CSI

Celebrating the *CSI* finale with the hashtag #OGCSI, Marg Helgenberger tweeted this image of her with all her old pals.



NCIS RECRUITS JON CRYER

JON CRYER THOUGHT he'd be prepared for his guest spot on *NCIS* as Dr. Taft, a celebrated Navy surgeon (and "bit of a wiseass," according to the actor). "I played a chiropractor for 12 years," he says. "That's gotta count for something!" But nothing could have prepped him for the task at hand: saving the life of protagonist Gibbs (Mark Harmon). "I always wanted to be one of the characters who dies entertainingly in the first two minutes," Cryer says. "When I read the script and realized the importance of Taft, I thought, 'Sweet Lord!'" — *Shirley Li*

Jon Cryer in the Sept. 22 season premiere of *NCIS*

BINGE

Jane the Virgin

It may have been snubbed by Emmy—but don't make the same mistake! As fall TV approaches, this is definitely the show you'll want to be caught up on come October. **By Shirley Li**

WHAT IT'S ABOUT

AS A YOUNG GIRL, JANE Gloriana Villanueva (Gina Rodriguez) was instructed by her *abuela* Alba (Ivonne Coll) to save herself for marriage. Which she does. But thanks to an accidental artificial insemination (it'll make sense soon), she finds herself a pregnant virgin with everything from her love life to her budding career spinning out of control. She must finish grad school, work at a Miami hotel, and avoid a dangerous drug lord who has returned to wreak havoc in the area. (If that all sounds too heavy, a touch of magical realism and a very funny narrator help break up the angst.) With the telenovela-inspired series returning to The CW for a second season Oct. 12, now's the time to catch up on *Jane*. So scour the junk food aisle and grab some tissues: You'll need them not only for the series' nutty twists and dramatic reveals but also for the countless heartwarming moments of Jane and her family.

KEY PLAYERS



JANE VILLANUEVA
Gina Rodriguez

A student working at the Hotel Marbella, Jane has life all figured out. Until she gets knocked up.



RAFAEL SOLANO
Justin Baldoni

Owner of the Marbella. Former playboy. Cancer survivor. Total stud. And the father of Jane's baby.



MICHAEL CORDERO
Brett Dier

Jane's protective (detective) boyfriend is hunting down a notorious criminal named Sin Rostro.

EP.1



EP.6



WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE BINGEING

TOTAL RUNNING TIME
15 HOURS AND 34 MINUTES

WATCH IT ON
CWTV.COM,
HULU, AMAZON
INSTANT VIDEO,
ITUNES

MEETING JANE (Eps. 1-3)

Our virgin heroine learns she's pregnant after getting accidentally artificially inseminated with the sperm of a guy she once had a "monster crush" on.

WATCH FOR: When Jane contemplates having sex (she's pregnant already, so why not?), she envisions a priest, choir, and Virgin Mary statue singing about abstinence. Hormones!

YOU'LL OBSESS OVER MICHAEL VS. RAFAEL (Eps. 4-6)

#TeamMichael or #TeamRafael? Poor Jane has two abtastic suitors: her boyfriend, Michael, and the father of her baby, Rafael. Tough choice, but it should be noted that Jane ends up having sex dreams about Raf. (She's a virgin, not a saint!)

WATCH FOR: We'll bet you three grilled cheeses you'll smile every time Jane sees the suitor she prefers and imagines a halo around his head.

DON'T JUDGE PETRA—OR ROGELIO—TOO QUICKLY (Eps. 4-10)

OMG! No one is who he or she seems. Sure, Petra loves to scheme, but only because she used to be, well, not Petra. (We've said too much.) And Rogelio may be a self-absorbed actor, but he'll do anything for family—like asking singer Paulina Rubio for help.

WATCH FOR: Alba's another one with a secret, but you'll learn hers quickly: She's an undocumented immigrant—a small plot point with huge cultural significance.

RODRIGUEZ, RODRIGUEZ AND DIER: COLL; GREG GAYNE/THE CW (3); GROBLAS: TYLER GOLDEN/THE CW; GMAIL, RODRIGUEZ AND COMPUTER, RODRIGUEZ AND BABY: PATRICK WYMORE/THE CW (3); RODRIGUEZ AND BALDONI: DANNY FELD/THE CW; MICHAEL CORDERO: KEVIN MAZUR/THE CW; RAFAEL: ANTHONY MENDES; KEY PLAYERS: ISOLATED PHOTOGRAPHY/THE CW (6)

Jane the Virgin may have been overlooked by the Emmys, but it got plenty of love from the **EWwys!** Dalton Ross and Amy Wilkinson will reveal if the show and its star won on Aug. 11 at 10 a.m. on SiriusXM Channel 105.



THE NARRATOR SPEAKS

It is important for you to know...that **Anthony Mendez**, the Emmy-nominated voice actor behind the series' narrator, almost passed on doing the "sassy pillow talk" for the show. "The audition email said 'Latin Lover Narrator' for a show called *Jane the Virgin*, and I was like, 'What the hell is this?'" he says, laughing. "But as I was reading it, I got it.... This guy's a character." A character who, luckily for binge-watchers, recaps plot points at the start of each ep. With that in mind, Mendez offered these tips for *Jane the Virgin* virgins: First, keep a box of tissues handy; second, eat while watching (the series loves featuring food); and third, binge with family—the mother-daughter story lines will strike a chord. And if following the tangled plots gets tough, simply wait for Mendez to chime in. "The narrator is your binge-watching buddy," he says. "You don't have to worry!"

WAIT—THIS IS A MURDER MYSTERY, TOO?

(Eps. 8–12)

Indeed it is! There are three murders to be solved, in fact—one victim impaled on an ice sculpture, one stabbed in the neck, and one buried alive—but all have ties to Sin Rostro, a notorious drug dealer whose identity will be important to the show (and to Rafael).

WATCH FOR: We guarantee your jaw will drop when one of the main characters comes this close to becoming a murder victim. It's so shocking, it's almost like you're watching *The Passions of Santos*!

HERE'S WHERE YOU'LL BE SAD RODRIGUEZ WAS SNUBBED FOR AN EMMY

(Eps. 11–16)

As if pregnancy's not enough to deal with, Jane has to figure out her career, save her romantic relationship, and worry about her baby's health. Everything Jane weathers in this stretch of episodes will have you reaching for tissues. And comfort food. And maybe even a #Seaweed-SoakMonday.

WATCH FOR: The tiny white dot that appears when Jane thinks about what her baby could be going through.

IF YOU'RE TEMPTED TO FAST-FORWARD THROUGH THE HOTEL PLOTS, DON'T

(Eps. 17–20)

Okay, we'll admit that dialogue about contracts and lawsuits could make anyone say *no más*, but stick around to see Petra fight (literally!) for her life, Rafael navigate some high-stakes negotiations opposite his sister, and—hey, hey, wake up!

WATCH FOR: How have we not mentioned Jane's flashbacks yet?! Keep an eye on young Jane—she has the best sound bites.

PACK YOUR GO BAG: IT'S ALMOST THE DUE DATE

(Eps. 18–21)

Put down that romance novel, hide those Target bags, and make some more grilled cheeses—you're almost there! (And so is the baby!) Too bad Jane isn't ready to celebrate yet. She's under a lot of pressure romantically, personally, and professionally. She's trying to do things herself, and it's not easy. (It only gets harder when the contractions begin...)

WATCH FOR: When Jane goes to her high school reunion and her student ID starts talking to her.

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER FOR BOTH YOU AND JANE!

(Ep. 22)

You've finished the season! The baby is here! And so are Xo and Alba, the two people Jane has always needed the most. Jane learns she can't go it alone for the important things in life. (Like binge-watching!)

WATCH FOR: You'll meet Jane's baby for the first time, but the final minutes will be tough to watch. Even so, just remember: Season 2 is right around the corner.

WHAT NOW!?

Done bingeing and dying for more? EP Jennie Snyder Urman says the season 2 premiere will pick up just minutes later. "What happens has ripple effects. It sort of resets us for the second season."



PETRA SOLANO
Yael Grobglas
Rafael's wife, who's great with schemes and affairs but not so great with hostage situations.



XIOMARA VILLANUEVA
Andrea Navedo
"Xo," Jane's well-meaning if self-involved mom, is an aspiring singer.



ROGELIO DE LA VEGA
Jaime Camil
The telenovela star, who's into #hashtags and himself, is more connected to Jane than she realizes.

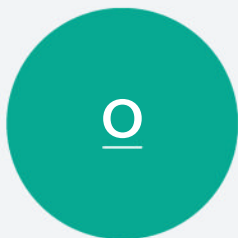
HOLLYWOOD'S HOTTEST NEW TREND

Lily Tomlin, 75

IS 70 THE NEW 30?

With prestige parts in provocative new movies, accomplished actors including **Blythe Danner**, **Ian McKellen**, and **Lily Tomlin** are proof positive that Hollywood may finally be starting to get over its age problem.

By Keith Staskiewicz



OUT WITH THE OLD, in with the...old? No one could ever accuse Hollywood of going out of its way to give lead roles to actors beyond a certain age. It's an industry with the age politics of *Logan's Run*—one in which Marisa Tomei has been cast as *Spider-Man's* Aunt May—but lately it seems that studios are changing tack. Moviegoers 60 and over account for 13 percent of all tickets sold in North America, a fairly large slice of the pie, and they've shown that they're willing to reach into their wallets for movies that speak to them. Three years ago *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*, starring Judi Dench and Maggie Smith, raked in a game-changing \$137 million worldwide, inspiring a 2015 sequel that secured another \$86 million and dynamited a door that had long been

padlocked to aged actors: bankable, above-the-title star.

This year has been especially good for actors holding both SAG and AARP cards. In *Grandma* (out Aug. 21), 75-year-old Lily Tomlin plays the hard-charging, tattooed, and titular loose cannon who takes it upon herself to help her pregnant teenage granddaughter get an abortion. "I was interested by the idea of a woman in her 70s who's way more punk rock and transgressive than her 18-year-old granddaughter," says writer-director Paul Weitz (*American Pie*). Tomlin, who also debuted her Netflix series, *Grace and Frankie*, this year with 77-year-old Jane Fonda, hasn't had a starring role in a non-ensemble feature film since the late 1980s, and this one could land her her first Oscar nomination since 1975's *Nashville*.

Blythe Danner—some five decades into a distinguished career—turned in a critically heralded performance in May's *I'll See You in My Dreams*, her first leading film role ever, at age 72. (Tomlin and Danner are both wooed in their respective

films by septuagenarian Sam Elliott, proving there's still plenty of bristle left in that mustache.) And just last month, Ian McKellen, 76, had to age up—to 93, to be exact—to shine at the center of *Mr. Holmes* as a senescent Sherlock. Both of those films grossed almost as much as Johnny Depp's last movie, *Mortdecai*, and surely cost less. So while Hollywood continues to wage a battle to drag younger audiences away from their smartphones and game consoles, studios have discovered that it can be smart to bet on gray. "It's an audience with a lifelong moviegoing habit," says Nancy Utley, president of Fox Searchlight, the studio behind the *Best Exotic Marigold* gold mine and the upcoming *Youth* (out Dec. 4), starring Michael Caine, 82, Fonda, and Harvey Keitel, 76. "They're less likely to wait for movies to appear on Netflix or iTunes, and they're more likely to come to a theater."

As baby boomers continue to age into retirement, they'll be looking for films that reflect their experiences. (They aren't



Blythe Danner, 72

Ian McKellen, 76

Jane Fonda, 77



▲ (From top) Michael Caine and Harvey Keitel in *Youth*; Lily Tomlin and Sam Elliott in *Grandma*

called the Me Generation for nothing.) “This audience likes to see [actors] their own age working successfully on screen and still being able to do what they love,” says Utley. This is also the generation that lived through the ’60s, and many of its actors cut their teeth in the ’70s during an age of groundbreaking American cinema, so don’t expect these twilight projects to look like *Driving Miss Daisy*. “These actors, they’re very idiosyncratic,” says Sony Pictures Classics co-president and cofounder Michael Barker. “Their personas are unique to themselves, and we’ve seen them unfold over the years. If, later in life, these roles come out that embrace the totalities of these talents, I think audiences will want to see them.”

And pay for them. That’s a lot of money, even after the senior discount. So for the first time in the history of American film, perhaps we’ll be able to see a whole generation of stars age gracefully—all the way to the end credits. ♦

Thoughts or questions? Tweet the writer @Staskijwczecz.



Andy Cohen. Unzipped.

The ringleader of late-night's wildest talk show counts SJP and Anderson as BFFs, has turned the concept of reality TV on its head, and keeps legions of fans glued to his every move on social media. But what's life *REALLY* like for Bravo's badass bon vivant?

Written by TIM STACK

Photographs by
ROBERT
TRACHTENBERG



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Cohen caught in the act at the New York Palace hotel on July 17, 2015

A VERY CANDID CANINE

ANDY'S FICKLE POOCH, WACHA, RECALLS HIS MOST MEMORABLE CELEB ENCOUNTERS

Chrissy Teigen

She let me do pretty much whatever I wanted with her, which was to hump her. It was awesome.

Naomi Judd

She is a little nutty, but she said she only came to meet me and brought tons of treats!

Donnie Wahlberg

I ate his hat.

Meredith Vieira

I know she's a dog lover, but I got a bad vibe. I snarled at her and Andy had me removed from the clubhouse!

Maury Povich

I thought he gave me the stink eye so I ate his reading glasses.

Tom Bergeron

I guess I bit him. I thought we were only playing, though.



Andy Cohen

loves nothing more than a good penis joke.

Around 6:30 on a warm July night in New York City, the *Watch What Happens Live* host arrives at the talk show's SoHo offices to prepare for a pretaped episode. Tonight's guest stars: *Trainwreck*'s Amy Schumer, Bill Hader, and director Judd Apatow. The show is still two hours from taping, but Cohen has arrived fully dressed in a black suit. After a quick nibble from the office cheese platter, he immediately heads to the tiny control

room to sketch out that night's infamous segment, "Plead the Fifth." In any given episode, Cohen asks guests three provocative questions—female guests frequently face "Have you ever swam in the lady pond?"—and the subjects are allowed to "plead the Fifth" to only one query. Cohen reads from the list of potentials: "'Name a Hollywood man you think would have a small d---'? That's funny. Amy will probably say Donald Trump."

A few minutes later, Cohen makes a lap around the offices. In the next hour, he'll bound around in a blitzkrieg of guest greetings and conversations with the staff. He says hello to Apatow and Hader, who are lounging in one of the offices-turned-greenrooms, before poking his head out the door: "Can we get Judd a Jack and Coke?" Then he goes over to a different room to chat up Schumer

(PREVIOUS SPREAD AND THIS SPREAD) ZIPPER AND PANTS: GETTY IMAGES (2); WARDROBE: SAM SECTOR; GROOMING: CAROLINE BLANCHARD; SET DESIGN: CHAD DZIEWONSKI/ROBERTS MCKINNEY; LOCATION: THE CHAMPAGNE SUITE IN THE TOWERS AT THE NEW YORK PALACE



◀ Cohen and his beloved pup, Wacha

T H E * L I S T

ANDY'S *Top 10* GREATEST TALK-SHOW HOSTS OF ALL TIME



- **DICK CAVETT**
So erudite, calm, urbane, classy.
- **HOWARD STERN**
He's my inspiration for *WWHL* and the best interviewer working today. He has his Wack Pack, and I have my *Housewives*.
- **TOM SNYDER**
Cigarettes and a hearty laugh.
- **DAVID LETTERMAN**
He deconstructed the talk show right before our eyes.
- **KELLY RIPA**
She doesn't get credit for how hard her job is because she makes it look so easy. Plus, she knows how to over-share without giving too much away.
- **JOHNNY CARSON**
Chic, chic, chic.
- **JOAN RIVERS**
When she guest-hosted on *The Tonight Show* it was like Christmas for me. The clothes, the monologue, the personal questions—perfect!
- **JIMMY FALLON**
He's brought a new energy, enthusiasm, freshness, and positivity to late-night.
- **ROSIE O'DONNELL**
She reinvented daytime TV with hilarious games and a love of pop culture.
- **ROBIN BYRD**
A live Manhattan public-access show hosted by a yenta in a crochet bikini, featuring strippers and call-ins? Why is this not still on?

Cohen, of course. A television producer who oversees Bravo's addictive, drama-filled *Real Housewives* franchise, the openly gay, sharply dressed raconteur is now the brand ambassador for one of cable's most popular and buzzy channels. "He's the face of the network," says Frances Berwick, president of NBCUniversal's cable lifestyle networks, which include Bravo. "He does very much embody that pop culture flavor that we think Bravo stands for." Cohen's pal Anderson Cooper agrees: "He's a pop culture enthusiast and has been from day one. If you read his letters from camp when he was a kid, they're all about *Grease* and Princess Di and Susan Lucci."

But even having ascended to this pop culture pinnacle, Cohen aspires to more. In recent years, his résumé has expanded to books (2012's *Most Talkative* and 2014's *The Andy Cohen Diaries*—both *New York Times* best-sellers), a television production company, and his own SiriusXM station, Radio Andy, which is set to launch this fall on channel 102. The producer will host two shows: a celeb talk show, *Deep and Shallow With Andy Cohen*; and a weekly live broadcast titled *Andy Cohen Live*. With such a wide variety of projects, he has seemingly usurped Ryan Seacrest's title of Busiest Man in Show Business. And he wouldn't have it any other way. "Watch What Happens Live is such an extension of my personality," he says. "The idea that I get to be a producer and be on TV and write and program this radio channel—it's the bull's-eye of where I want to be."

"STOP! STOP! EVERYONE IS TALKING OVER everyone. It's Carole's turn to answer! Let her answer!" It's a sweltering afternoon in July, and Andy Cohen is corralling the *Real Housewives of New York City* stars at their reunion in midtown Manhattan. The women, including Carole Radziwill, are bickering over details from the past season, and Cohen, seated in the center of all this madness, is attempting to take control. He has been hosting these ratings-gold reunions, which are filled with heavy doses of finger-pointing, hair-pulling, name-calling, and shade-throwing, for the past eight years. And

and compliment her skills. "You're an actress!" he says, as a production assistant delivers a tray of champagne.

At 47 years old, Cohen exudes contagious enthusiasm and seemingly endless curiosity about pop culture, and his energy fuels *WWHL*. Part of the appeal of the show—which is averaging 788,000 total viewers this year, according to Nielsen—is that guests are pretty loose on air thanks to the free-flowing libations. Later, Schumer (who, for the record, jokes that Laurence Fishburne might pack a micro manhood) explains the appeal of being a guest: "It's the only show with questions you actually want to know the answers to. [Its name is] perfect: Just show some crazy s--- in the moment. It lets you really be yourself and be open and have fun."

The guy having the most fun? Andy

(Clockwise from right) Cohen and Oprah on *WWHL* in 2013; Cohen with Sarah Jessica Parker at New York's Met Gala this past May; Lady Gaga and Cohen on *WWHL* in 2013



in some ways his childhood perfectly prepared him to be the Diplomat of TV Drama. While Cohen was growing up in St. Louis he was a passionate soap fan. “When we were first developing *Housewives*, I thought, ‘Wow, this, in its best iteration, could be a modern-day soap opera,’” he remembers. “The stars of *The Real Housewives of Orange County* all lived on the same block so, to me, it was like *Knots Landing*.”

Cohen began his *Housewives* reunion duties in 2007, after successfully hosting a *Top Chef* after-show on Bravo's website. The network's executives had been wanting to develop a pop-culture-focused talk show for some time. They soon realized that in Cohen—who had been voraciously documenting his exploits on his *bravotv.com* blog—they had found their star. Cohen says the hope for *WWHL* was to emulate

hanging at his apartment: “I’d offer you a drink, I’d ply you for gossip, and we’d hang out and have fun.”

At times the shows have been rocky: During a 2012 interview with Cloris Leachman and *Flipping Out* star Jeff Lewis, the fire alarm in the studio inexplicably went off. And the on-air drinking can create its own must-see-TV chaos. “There was an episode with Kylie Minogue and Elijah Wood,” Cohen says. “I thought everyone was so drunk. When I ran into Kylie at a party a year later, I said, ‘Oh my God! We were so drunk. Wasn’t that crazy?’ And she said, ‘No, *you* were really drunk.’ So that was embarrassing.”

Despite (or thanks to?) those boozy moments, the series has grown into a late-night destination that favors not only so-called Bravolebrities but also A-list stars like Oprah Winfrey, Lady Gaga, J. Lo, and

Cher. (Michelle Obama and Madonna are two dream guests he hopes to book.) No subjects are off-limits. “I just want to be real,” he says. “I’m a real person. I smoke dope. I poo. I made a joke about poo last night on the show. Everybody poops. Why does no one talk about it?”

Cohen’s work life is enviable, but his personal life, which he broadcasts to his combined 2.75 million followers on Instagram and Twitter, is equally alluring. His celebrity-filled circle of friends—including Kelly Ripa and Jimmy Fallon—is one of the most discussed aspects of his life. In May, he took in a Mets/Cardinals game with Jerry Seinfeld and Matthew Broderick. In June, he was snapping selfies in NYC with Miley Cyrus at an amfAR gala.

Cohen has taken some flak for flaunting his celeb connections—he almost titled his last book *Diary of a Name-Dropper*—but he doesn’t mind the criticism. “My skin is pretty thick,” he says. “If I had the choice between hanging out with a boring famous person and one of my good friends, I would hang out with one of my good friends. I make no bones about always having been fascinated by pop culture and celebrity. At this point, I could kinda give a s--- what people think.”

When his celebrity friends speak about

Andy's Celebrity Fan Club



ANDERSON COOPER

THERE IS NOBODY I've met who enjoys where they are in life more than Andy does. This is what he's always dreamed of, and he's made it happen for himself.



BETHENNY FRANKEL

HE'S GOT A boyish nature to him, and he always will, but he's a man and a force to be reckoned with. He still manages to be respected and liked, but if someone doesn't like him, he's okay with that.



him, though, it sounds like *they're* the group-ies. "It's as if you get to lead another life when you're friends with Andy," says Sarah Jessica Parker. "His life is really colorful and interesting and adventurous and surprising." Adds Ripa: "You want him at the party. He will dance with you. He will get on the table with you—he is that guy."

Cohen and Cooper have actually taken their friendship on the road. Last spring, the pair launched a joint speaking tour where they'd interview and basically try to embarrass each other on stage. (They'll resume touring this fall.) At a meal with Cohen and Cooper in the West Village recently, their back-and-forth indeed feels like old friends bantering.

ANDY We were set up on a blind date. We didn't wind up going on the date.

ANDERSON We had a phone call.

ANDY I was too enthusiastic for him.

ANDERSON I was on the phone with Andy, and I just imagined him gesticulating a lot while he was talking to me.

ANDY That's so rude!

ANDERSON I was like, "We're not going to go on a date." So we never went on a date.

ANDY And I thought the call went great, and I was excited to go out with the young Vanderbilt boy!

A FEW HOURS LATER, COHEN IS BACK TO WORK. Tonight's *WWHL* is a typically bizarre booking with *RHONY*'s kooky star Ramona Singer and actor Michael Rapaport. But Rapaport is an unabashed *Housewives* superfan and charms the room with his enthusiasm for the franchise. "This is why the television was invented!" he gushes. One of Cohen's best friends, producer Liza Persky, is in the front row and whispers, "Andy's loving this."

After the taping wraps, Cohen is scheduled

ANDY'S *Have* POP CULTURE MOMENTS ON YOUTUBE

● SUSAN LUCCHI'S EMMY ACCEPTANCE SPEECH IN 1999

After losing 19 times, the soap queen delivers the best awards-show speech ever.

● TERI GARR OR SANDRA BERNHARD ON *LETTERMAN*

Dozens of the best appearances in talk-show history to choose from! The chemistry is electric.

● DIANA ROSS AND MICHAEL JACKSON SING "UPSIDE DOWN" IN 1981

When Diana was Beyoncé, and Michael was on the brink of world domination. The results are explosive.

● GAME 6 OF THE 2011 WORLD SERIES

If you have five spare hours, watch the drama play out. If not, do the last hour. You just might cry, it's so good (unless you're from Texas).

● THE JESSICA SAVITCH MELTDOWN

It's called "Angry Anchor." She has a tantrum about not having a stage manager and then rehearses and NAILS IT!

● THE HOLLYWOOD PALACE

Everybody performed on this show, and the results are often twisted—check out Joey Heatherton singing "Light My Fire."

to have a massage, but he must stay and interview Singer for a *Housewives* special. There was a time when Cohen, who is single, used to toast a great show with drinks at a local watering hole, or even a date. Not so much anymore. "When the show was on once or twice a week, I'd go out every night," he admits. "Sometimes I'd meet someone after the show. The thing is, if I see them for dinner before my show, I'm thinking about the show, I'm checking my phone, we're working on [segments] and all."

Cohen is, in fact, rarely without a phone in hand. While he gleefully documents his life on social media, Cohen admits he keeps romantic stuff slightly more personal. "It almost seems like I don't have a penis in *The Andy Cohen Diaries*," he says. "I go on dates and I kind of kiss people good night at the door. I'm like a Victorian lady or something. So I think I draw the line with that stuff."

The love of his life these days? A rescue dog named Wacha. Cohen is often busy curating the pup's Instagram, which has more than 150,000 followers. He jokes, "People say to me, 'What's your hobby?' and I'm like, 'My dog's Instagram.' It's so fun. I posted the cutest picture of him sniffing a beagle's ass today." Ever the enterprising father, Cohen also hopes to land Wacha a dog food endorsement. Jokes Cohen, "He's my little JonBenét—without the sad ending."

Despite all of his successes and busy social calendar, Cohen admits he's not completely fulfilled. "I'm a little lonely, I think," he says earnestly. When asked what's still on his bucket list, he says, "I mean, I need to fall madly in love." So will 2015 be the year Bravo's most eligible bachelor finally finds his Real Househusband? "Maybe it will be," he says with a shrug. "Or maybe it will be the year of me being even *more* insane." ♦

THE ★ LIST



KELLY RIPA

HE STOPS BY my house to get snacks, and then he leaves. We have "Andy's drawer." There are several varieties of Pepperidge Farm Goldfish, M&M's—and almonds for when he's feeling "healthy."



MARK CONSUELOS

IT MAKES US PROUD that he's done so well. He's worked really hard to get where he is. His best quality is that he's fearless. He's not afraid to do anything. That translates over his career.



SARAH JESSICA PARKER

BEING HIS FRIEND is a lot of fun. He's a deeply loyal person, and he's sort of like...a barnacle you want. He's the one you wouldn't scrape off, because he's so committed and devoted to his friends.



Secrets of Andy's Clubhouse



- 1 JAKE SHEARS DOLL**
On this eclectic shelf is a trio of odd gifts: an Andy doll from *Flipping Out*'s Jenni Pulos, a likeness of Jake Shears of Scissor Sisters, and a knife from *The Shahs of Sunset*'s GG.



- 2 CARDINALS MEMORABILIA**
Who knew the *Housewives* wrangler was a baseball lover? He's such a die-hard St. Louis Cardinals fan that May 10, 2013, was named Andy Cohen Night at Busch Stadium. The Cardinals had this bobblehead made in his honor, which stands guard over a bat signed by Ozzie Smith.



- 3 TAMRA BARNEY'S BREAST IMPLANTS**
In 2012 the *Real Housewife of Orange County* had her implants removed and bequeathed them to Cohen. They're accessorized with Patti LaBelle's half-eaten Life Saver, Lindsay Lohan's cigarette butt, and Julie Andrews' used tea bag.



use Revealed

The *Watch What Happens Live* host shares the stories behind the set's weird, wonderful treasures, from a stylish Bieber doll to Lady Gaga's "essence." *Written by NIA HOWE-SMITH*



- 4 JUSTIN BIEBER DOLL**
A longtime veteran of the Clubhouse, this Justin Bieber doll got a chic new wrap dress after a visit from designer Diane von Furstenberg.



- 5 LADY GAGA PEE-FUME AND CHILDRAFT ENCYCLOPEDIAS**
The singer urinated in the WWHL dressing-room trash can, so naturally Cohen had the eau de Gaga bottled. Next to it is something sentimental: Cohen's childhood encyclopedias. "Yeah, from the '70s!" he says. "They look so pretty on the shelf."



- 6 FLIP WILSON/GERALDINE DOLL**
Check out this double-sided doll of '70s comedian Flip Wilson and his alter ego Geraldine Jones. "It had been on Flip's side, but I was getting so many tweets saying, 'Why do you have a Bill Cosby doll?'" says Cohen. Next to it: a strain of "Connie Chung" pot—from Connie Chung herself.

TRIPLE TALK!

Andy Gossips With His Favorite TV Queens

Nashville and *Empire* are two of our guest host's favorite shows, so we put him on the phone with leading ladies Connie Britton and Taraji P. Henson to talk wildest moments, favorite outfits, and who they're kissing next

What have your wildest moments as Cookie Lyon and Rayna Jaymes on the shows been so far?

TARAJI P. HENSON Cookie keeps topping her wildest moment! But I guess the wildest moment so far was when she punched Boo Boo Kitty in the face.

CONNIE BRITTON Every moment is a wild moment, but one that was out-there was when I was in a coma. We shot in a real ICU ward in a working hospital, and I felt horrible, because we were in the way of people that had genuine problems—like real people in comas as opposed to my silly pretend coma!

How do you guys get into character? Taraji, do you put

on a fur? Connie, do you listen to Taylor Swift?

TARAJI Hair and makeup. Once I get that on, Cookie comes alive! I just get into it. I've heard some actors stay in character and I don't judge, but I have to live in between takes. I can't stay in the character.

CONNIE At this point we're in season 4, so it's just sort of there. But we did just start up shooting this season, and I had a couple of moments like, "What accent is this? Who am I doing again?" But being in Nashville, I'm surrounded by all these people, so...

What was your first time singing on TV like?

CONNIE Oh my God, petrifying! But it was such a huge rush. The level of adrenaline and

terror raging through my body was unprecedented. But we do go into a studio to record the songs live, so by the time we're shooting we are basically lip-synching our songs.

TARAJI It was kind of scary because I don't sing. I'm not Jussie [Smollett]. But I kind of like the rawness of it. It actually came out okay. I'm always a little nervous when asked to sing because it's not my first talent. I'll do it if the role requires it.

Do you have a favorite outfit on your show?

TARAJI You haven't seen it yet! It's from the Moschino 2016 line, and it's red leather with all these Moschino chains on it. My God! It also has a matching purse.

You just purred saying purse!





What about you, Connie?

CONNIE It was a blue jewel-encrusted bustier and blue leather pants from season 1, when I performed with Brad Paisley on the CMAs. But anything with sequins and rhinestones is gonna be a fave. **You know I'm also obsessed with hair. Connie, how long does it take to do yours?**

CONNIE I have an amazing person doing it, but it will never take me more than 45 minutes to an hour from wet hair to having it camera-ready.

And what will Cookie's hair look like this season?

TARAJI You will be seeing a lot more Cookie hair moments. We're incorporating blond, and not just in the flashbacks but in present time.

So who are some of your favorite Hollywood queens?

CONNIE Elisabeth Moss. I think Lizzy Caplan is badass. I watch *Masters of Sex* when I can. Julianna Margulies is the epitome of grace and strength.

TARAJI Joan Collins, of course. Diahann Carroll, honey.

Any dream musical guest stars?

CONNIE Bonnie Raitt is my number one. She's the queen.

Let's talk boys. Who are you each kissing this season?

CONNIE There's the Deacon thing. Chip Esten is nothing to shake a stick at. He's dreamy. I'm not supposed to talk about whether he lives or dies.

TARAJI Adam Rodriguez is up next on the menu.

Your son Andre Lyon [Trai Byers] is also so hot.

TARAJI He is hard to look at, isn't he? It's a shame he's my son. Wouldn't *that* be a scandal? But he's a damn good actor. I

scream his praises every time.

I scream his praises for his ass every time.

TARAJI It is a high boot. I get to look at that every day.

How about fave guest stars?

CONNIE Michiel Huisman. He played Liam. I liked him because he was hot, period. And because he is one of the nicest yet manliest men I've ever met.

TARAJI Courtney Love. It's an actor's dream when you trust the actor so much you start to improvise. She can go from brassy to vulnerable in zero seconds. Wherever I went, she was ready. I love to fight with her. It was amazing.

Is she back this season?

TARAJI I'm sure of it.

You shoot in Nashville and Chicago. Do you like being outside the New York/L.A. bubble?

CONNIE I do, especially if you're doing a show about that place, which I've done twice, for *Friday Night Lights* and *Nashville*. It makes a huge difference.

TARAJI I love it because I love my condo. I'm right on the lake, and I'm looking down at the beach with the people and the boats in the water. I love it.

If Cookie and Rayna were Real Housewives, what would their taglines be?

TARAJI Cookie's tagline would be "The street ain't made for everybody. That's why they made sidewalks."

CONNIE Rayna's tagline would be "I'm just gonna sing while I scrub this toilet."

What would an *Empire/Nashville* crossover be like if, say, Cookie took over Rayna Jaymes' career?

TARAJI She would turn her into a star, honey. ♦



JOHN & ANDY'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE

Travel with Andy Cohen and his buddy John Mayer on their bromantic road trip to Northern California to see the Grateful Dead's last live shows—and to celebrate marriage equality across the country

JOHN MAYER AND I

have what some would consider an unlikely friendship. He's one of our greatest living guitarists, and I'm regarded as the dude that stirs the s--- on late-night TV. We do have one thing that bonds us: our love of the Grateful Dead. So when the band did five shows this summer—their last ever—we used their Santa Clara, Calif., gigs as an excuse to take a road trip and bro it up.

On June 26, we made the journey up the 101 from Los Angeles. We were in John's EarthRoamer off-road camping truck (which was v butch) and spent some of the drive pondering which of us was Oprah and which was Gayle (not v butch). Marriage equality

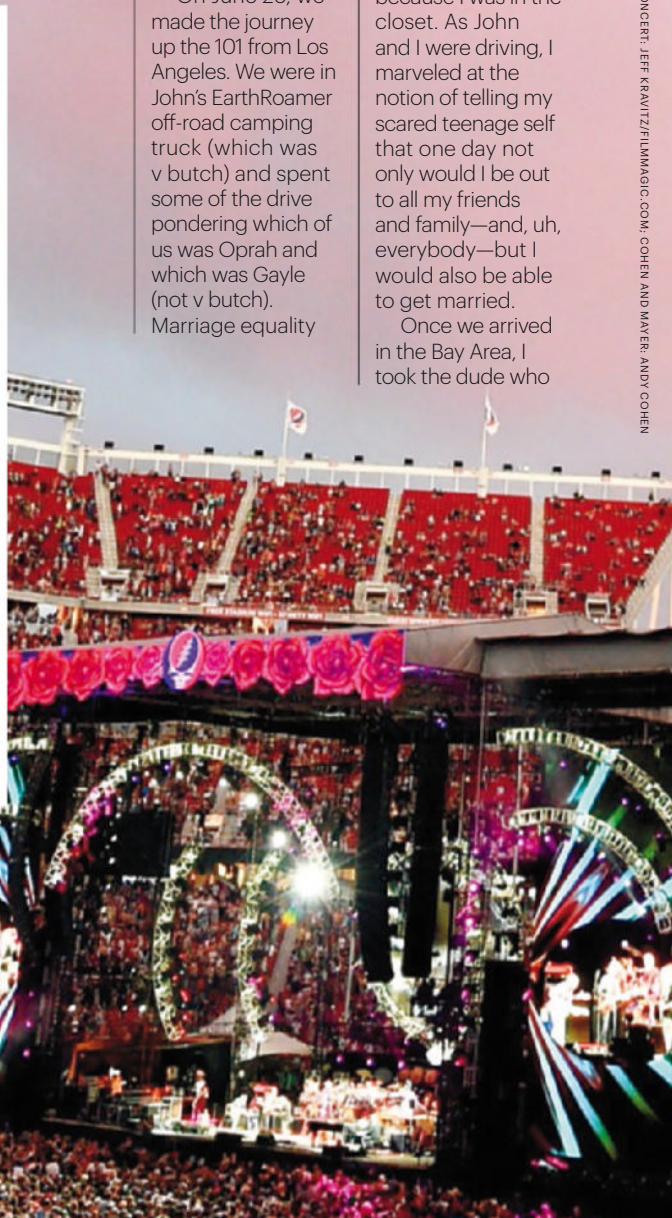
had passed that day—and we were headed square into gay pride in San Francisco. I was on top of the world.

After an intense late-childhood Diana Ross fixation, I became a Dead-head. As a teenager in St. Louis, I'd drive in my '72 Buick Skylark convertible to wherever they were playing and dance like I didn't have a care in the world. Looking back, I wonder if Dead shows were my happy place because I was in the closet. As John and I were driving, I marveled at the notion of telling my scared teenage self that one day not only would I be out to all my friends and family—and, uh, everybody—but I would also be able to get married.

Once we arrived in the Bay Area, I took the dude who



Certainly one of my most euphoric moments of the summer!



CONCERT: JEFF KRAVITZ/FILMMAGIC.COM; COHEN AND MAYER: ANDY COHEN

can make all the ladies' panties drop to the Powerhouse (gay bars, FYI, always have v butch names). The vibe was jubilation mixed with intense body heat and plenty of disco (I explained Diana Ross to John). Did I mention a dude in a jockstrap assumed the role of our bodyguard? Anyway, John was the ultimate wingman, asking me who was tickling my fancy. As the night went on, we wound up on the dance floor and—from what I remember—it was nothing short of euphoric.

The next day, we moved from disco to the Dead. It had been 20 years since the group performed as the Dead (and 23 since I'd seen them), and I wondered: Would the crowd be all old yuppies? Am I an old yuppie? Would I still be able to dance like a free bird?

What I hadn't expected was that when we wandered backstage, I found myself in the middle of a Real Housewives of Grateful Dead reunion, featuring Phil Lesh's wife, Jill, and Bob Weir's wife, Natascha. They knew as much about me as I did their husbands, and that was awesome. The audience was multigenerational and smelled just like GD concerts did in the day—a mix of body heat and pot (not unlike the Powerhouse). As for stronger stimulants, an insider told me night 1 was definitely the night to do psychedelics, so I took note. The band was tight, with Trey Anastasio playing Jerry's parts. They began with "Truckin'" and "Uncle John's Band," and just before intermission,

a rainbow appeared out of nowhere, and to put it bluntly: Everyone lost their s---. (Was it Jerry saying hi?) Backstage during intermission was equally surreal: There was Mickey Hart chatting up Nancy Pelosi, who was decked out in a white tunic. It seemed as much a mirage as the Jerry rainbow.

I spent the afternoon before the next day's concert ogling pink poodles and leathermen at San Francisco's robust pride parade. (I let John have the afternoon off.) High-lights of night 2 were "Hell in a Bucket," "Sugar Magnolia" (my favorite), and "Brokedown Palace." I spent most of the

concert dancing furiously and gloriously, by myself, like I used to.

That weekend, the confluence of marriage equality, legalization of pot, and the Grateful Dead getting back together created a perfect combo platter, allowing me to do just what I had fantasized on the road trip: bring back my 19-year-old self to tell him it all turned out okay, and give him a big hug tied up with a rainbow. On the way home, a friend texted and said if I'd celebrated gay pride in any more of a straight way, I'd have had sex with a girl at the Super Bowl.

It was all epic and unforgettable—and I'm still celebrating. ♦



Happiness at the Powerhouse!



How cool is John's EarthRoamer?



Preshow selfie with Phil Lesh! (It was my idea.)



The backstage map doesn't show where to get good weed.




Grateful Dead perform at Levi's Stadium in Santa Clara, Calif., for the Fare Thee Well tour on June 27





TOUR EXCLUSIVE!

Madonna Gets Real

 Nuns on stripper poles! Stage baes! And her grill! Andy Cohen gets the scoop on his favorite pop star's upcoming *Rebel Heart* trek.



▲
1. Madonna live at the Brit Awards in London, Feb. 25

2. A collection of the Queen of Pop's wigs for her *Rebel Heart* tour

3. Madonna and her wardrobe team size up looks for the stage

4. Madonna flaunts her bling

5. Gucci designed a custom leather jacket for the pop star

YOU THINK I'M GOING TO GUEST-EDIT AN issue of EW and not talk to the Queen of Pop about the year's biggest world tour, kicking off Sept. 9 in Montreal? In late July, Madonna, 56, rang me up and we dished about Instagram, Beyoncé, *Truth or Dare*...and, oh, she called me sexist.

Madonna! Hi! How are you?

I'm tired, not gonna lie.

You're working your ass off, aren't you?

I am. We work really late hours, and I got into the vicious cycle of working late and then sleeping late.

Where are you right now?

I'm in New York.

I mean, are you in your tub? In your bed?

Ha, no. I wish I was in my bed. If I got in my bed, though, I wouldn't get out. I'm in my office.



And are you in sweats?

I'm in silk pajama shorts, if you must know. They were made for me by Dolce & Gabbana, I don't know, eight years ago, so there's a sort of tattered, vintage look about me.

Perfect, you're giving me full Madonna now! I can't wait for you to get back on tour—I love screaming your name at the top of my lungs. Am I going to see dancing nuns on stripper poles?

Did somebody tell you that?

I saw the trailer.

Oops, so I guess the cat's out of the bag.

Was that your idea?

I mean, yeah. It was. I just like the juxtaposition. I'm very immersed in deconstructing the concept of sexuality and religion and how it's not supposed to go together, but in my world it goes together.

That's one of the reasons that I love you. I assume we'll be hearing "Bitch, get off my pole" while the nuns are on the stripper poles.

Mmmm, you might. I don't want to give away the details. I want people to be surprised.

How many hours a day are you rehearsing at this point?

Well, I consider meeting for video and fittings all part of the rehearsal process, so that's, I don't know, 10 to 12 hours a day.

What are you eating?

[Laughs] Anything I can get my hands on.

Come on!

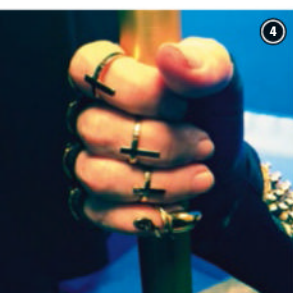
No, really, I have to keep eating so I have energy. I eat food, you know, normal food. Omelets for breakfast, healthy lunches, and things like that, but I'm also supplementing that with power shakes and those energy bars. I have a woman who follows me around. I call her the food police. "Are you eating? Did you drink enough water?" I'm like, "Bitch, get off my pole!"

By the way, can you cook?

Wow, we're really jumping around.

I'm just curious!

No, it's not one of my talents, I'm sorry to say. Everyone asks me that, including my



14-year-old son [Rocco], who is absolutely not satisfied with all of my accomplishments. He just wants me to cook for him. I'm like, "Okay, I'll get to that. I promise you, when this tour's over with, I'm gonna cook for you."

I loved seeing Rocco on the last tour.

Are we gonna see him doing anything on this one?

I think he's probably gonna work behind the scenes. He's not interested in performing on stage with me right now. There's way cooler things. Your mom is not that cool when you're 14.

So do you still have the *Truth or Dare* mother-hen thing going on with the dancers?

Of course. Yep. Every day. They're my little babies.

Tell me how you balance hits and new material on your set list.

Well, it's tricky. Of course, the thing I'm most excited about doing is my new stuff, because I haven't done it yet and it's fresh.

But I realize that people want to hear my older stuff, so for me it's always a tricky balance trying to keep some kind of continuity, not only with sound, sonically, but also thematically. Because when I first started writing music, I was a young girl, and I didn't write about very deep things. And now I do. Although going from what I consider to be slightly superficial topics to more profound ways of thinking is also a challenge. That's why a lot of times I have to take the songs and turn them inside out and make them more ironic than straightforward, so that they work for me.

You've been teasing your set list on Instagram.

Yeah, of course I have.

So will I hear "Dress You Up"?

Yes.

"Who's That Girl"?

Yes.

"Vogue"?

Yes.

"Holiday"?

Yes.

Wow, you're giving me good info!

Now stop right there!

Let me ask you this, do you read the comments under your Instagram posts?

Sometimes. Like whenever I'm on holiday.

What's your reaction to them?

Sometimes people are really supportive and nice, but you can't get attached to people saying nice things because then when people say mean things it will bother you. So you just have to take it all in stride, and I really don't take any of it seriously. I can't afford to. The most illuminating thing about reading comments on Instagram is how literal people are, and how people have no sense of humor and no sense of irony; [they] don't read between the lines. It's interesting.

Are you addicted to Instagram a little bit?

No, not really. I could live without it. But it's an important part of my work now. I like to think of it as a kind of art gallery for my thoughts, my dreams, my wishes, my

state of mind. Can't ignore social media.

I love that you share old photos of you with your fans. You seem like someone who doesn't like to look back, but I love it when you do.

I love to look back and see the great art and artists that I've had the privilege to collaborate with, whether it's [Jean Paul] Gaultier or Keith Haring or Steven Meisel or Herb Ritts or whomever. I worked with the greatest and the best and the finest.

It also feels like a time that will never happen again. Do you know what I mean? So it makes me feel really blessed.

It's trite at this point to say that you reinvent yourself every few years. But I wonder, why is it important for you to keep creating new stuff?

Because as an artist I have something new to say every time I make a record. I think that that's kind of a no-brainer. I'm not a "greatest hits" kind of girl. You could say it's reinventing, but a real artist is continuously changing and evolving because the art is continuously changing and evolving. I mean, Picasso didn't paint the same paintings over and over again.

What is the best and worst part of touring?

You're like, "Yeah, just shut the f--- up."

No, no, I got it! I got it!

That's the endless question I get: "Why do you keep doing it?"

You obviously don't have to.

But to me, that's a sexist thing to say. No one said to Picasso when he was 80, "Why are you painting?"

Why is that sexist, though?

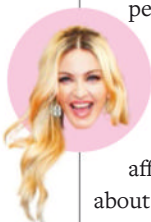
Because he's a man and nobody asked him that, okay? But because I'm a woman, people ask me. Does anyone ask Mick Jagger why he keeps going on tour?

Yeah, I actually think they do. What I'm getting at is, you could probably park it at Madison Square Garden and do a residency twice a month for the next 20 years.

I don't think so.

Really?

No, people in New York are sick of me.





Are you f---ing kidding me? You're the queen of New York.

No. I don't know.

Do you have a favorite city to perform in?

Well, in America, my favorite city is New York, obviously. 'Cause it's my hometown.

Even though they're over you?

You know the old saying: You're a prophet everywhere but in your own country.

Is there a city where you've performed that you will not return to?

I don't think I should go back to Moscow or St. Petersburg.

You stirred some s--- there, but God bless you for doing it. Do you think they would have you back?

No. But that's okay. Why would I even want to perform in a place where being gay is [criminalized]?

What's your current favorite song on *Rebel Heart*?

Well, I love "Ghosttown." I love "Bitch I'm Madonna," and I love "Illuminati," "Holy Water." The darker, crazier, more controversial songs.

Have you seen any tours in the past year that have inspired you? On Instagram, you welcomed Taylor Swift to New York when she was here.

I didn't get the chance to go see her show. I was kinda bummed. We were actually gonna do something together on stage, but I didn't go to the show because I was rehearsing and I had to shoot a video the next day. Going to shows requires free time. Who's the last person I saw?...

I remember you really heaped a lot of praise on Beyoncé's last tour.

Oh! That's probably the last big show I've seen, and that was really good.

What was good about it?

She's a great performer and she puts on a show. She's a professional, you know what I mean? She ticks all the boxes. She's great live, and all the stuff around her, it's complete entertainment. And she gives it her all, so I appreciate that.

By the way, what were you gonna do with Taylor Swift on stage?

I'm not gonna tell you, because we might

still do it. You're very nosy. You just want to know everything.

I really do!

I'm just gonna send my diary over to your house, okay? With a key. Open it up, read it, send it back to me, okay?

Please do. I want to know f---ing everything!

Skip over all the parts about who I have crushes on and things like that.

Oh my God. There's no way I'm skipping that part. Well, now I want to know, do you have a crush on any of your dancers at this current moment in time?

I mean, I always do. You have to. I call them my "stage baes."

Perfect.

But that's it, it's just on the stage.

You keep it on the stage. That would be messy, right?

Yeah, of course, and that actually makes it more electric, you know?

When was the last time you saw your 1991 doc *Truth or Dare*?

Jeez, I don't know. Several years ago. I've seen bits and pieces from it. I sort of gag when I watch it, 'cause I'm like, "Oh my God, I can't." It's hard to watch myself do anything. I can't even stand to watch myself in concert, like my last tour.

Really? Why?

I just don't like to watch it. But I think maybe *Truth or Dare*, I could

possibly revisit it right now.

Can you call me when you do that, please?

Let's watch it together.

I want to film you watching *Truth or Dare* and release that.

Me just going, "I can't believe I said that. Oh my God, I can't believe I did that."

The arrogance...

Well, the arrogance was brilliant. The shade, the arrogance...

The shade was thrown! I'm afraid to watch it. I just think I was a horrible brat, that's what I'm afraid of.

As a student of yours, it seems like you're having more fun on stage recently. Am I right? Maybe it's just that you smile more.

That could be it. I don't know. I'm very invested in having a good time with this show. You know, not beating myself up if I make a mistake.

So...grill or no grill on stage?

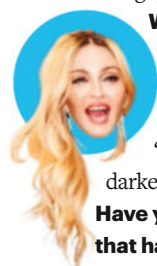
It's really hard to sing with a grill in your mouth. You end up lisping, and putting your teeth together is actually essential to singing well. So as much as I love a grill, it probably won't be in my mouth when I'm singing.

I will be there both nights of Madison Square Garden. I cannot wait.

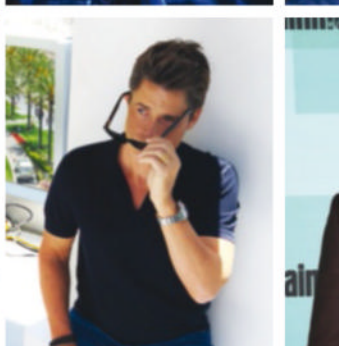
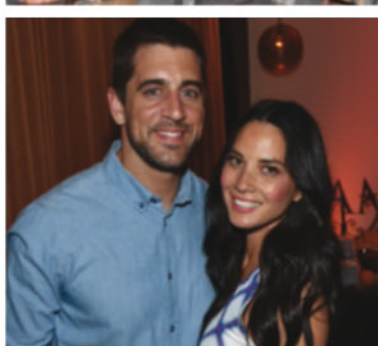
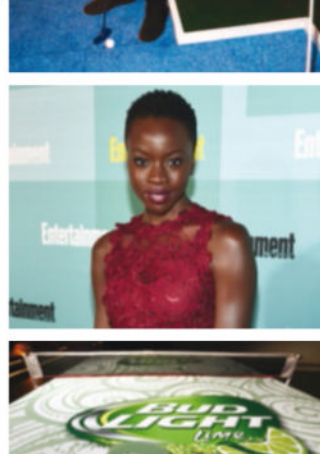
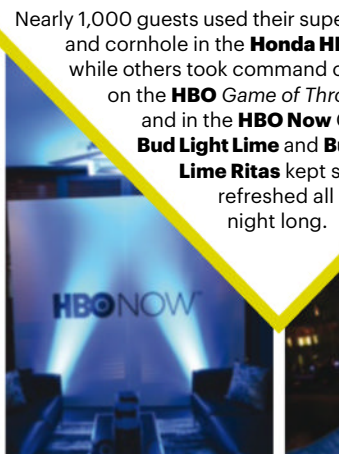
Thank you so much. Make yourself noticeable in the audience so I can bump and grind you. ♦



▶
Madonna
jams
backstage



Entertainment WEEKLY EVENTS



COMIC-CON

San Diego ♦ July 9—12, 2015

Entertainment Weekly descended on Comic-Con to kick off the four-day ultimate pop culture convention. Over 100 casts visited the Entertainment Weekly Lounge presented by the **LG G4** to share inside scoop about their latest projects.

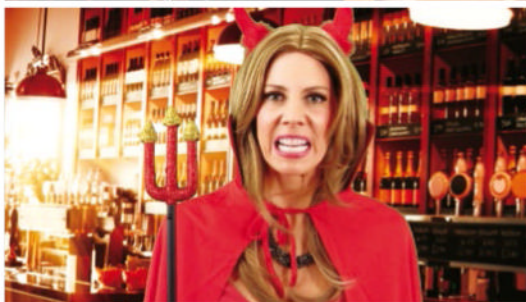
For the ninth year, EW's celeb-filled bash at **Hard Rock Hotel's Float** ended Comic-Con with a BANG!

Nearly 1,000 guests used their super powers for putt-putt and cornhole in the **Honda HR-V** gaming area, while others took command of their kingdom on the **HBO Game of Thrones** throne and in the **HBO Now** Cabana. **Bud Light Lime** and **Bud Light Lime Ritas** kept stars refreshed all night long.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: EW Super Hero street teams; Carli Lloyd (FIFA Women's World Cup Champion); Tyler Posey (*Teen Wolf*); James McAvoy (*X-Men: Apocalypse*); Seth Green and the cast of *Con Man*; Blake Anderson (*Workaholics*); Danai Gurira (*The Walking Dead*); Bud Light Lime ping pong table; Bud Light Lime Rita Cabana; Sam Heughan (*Outlander*); Daniel Radcliffe (*Victor Frankenstein*) and Ian Ziering (*Sharknado 3*); HBO Now Cabana; Rob Lowe (*Moonbeam City*); Olivia Munn (*X-Men: Apocalypse*) and Aaron Rodgers (Green Bay Packers Quarterback); Nathan Fillion and Alan Tudyk (*Con Man*); Jamie Lee Curtis and the cast of *Scream Queens*.



(Clockwise from top left) The many faces—and cocktail glasses—of Amy Phillips: as Dorinda Medley of *The Real Housewives of New York City*; Heather Dubrow of *Orange County*; Yolanda Foster of *Beverly Hills*; Ramona Singer of *New York City*; and Stassi Schroeder of *Vanderpump Rules*



The Fake Housewife of L.A.

How Andy's go-to comedian Amy Phillips mastered the hilarious art of sending up Bravo's biggest personalities.

Written by KEVIN O'DONNELL

WHEN RAMONA SINGER, STAR OF BRAVO'S *The Real Housewives of New York City*, appeared on Andy Cohen's *Watch What Happens Live* in 2012, she came face-to-face with her No. 1 superfan: Amy Phillips. "I could see Ramona live in all her glory," recalls Phillips, 40. "Andy said it best—that when he looked over at me, I was 'going mental.'"

There's a reason she's obsessed with Bravo stars like Singer. Since 2009 Phillips has gained a devoted YouTube following thanks to her impressions of the network's boldest, brashest stars, which Cohen has heartily endorsed. The L.A.-based comedian has nailed every nuance of *Beverly Hills* doyenne Lisa Vanderpump and dozens more. "These Housewives bring me such joy that I can't, and won't, contain myself," she says.

Growing up in Grosse Pointe, Mich., Phillips developed her gifts of impersonation early. (Liza Minnelli's role in 1981's *Arthur* was

an awakening.) After studying at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York, she hit the improv circuit in Chicago and landed a stint on VH1's short-lived sketch show *Stevie TV*. But when she began binge-watching *The Rachel Zoe Project*, Phillips donned a wig and oversize sunglasses and found her calling as a Bravolebrity impersonator extraordinaire. "When I met [Zoe], she was like a giddy schoolgirl," Phillips recalls. "She was quoting me [quoting her]!"

Phillips isn't content to simply mimic her favorite reality stars. In fact, she's set to host an hour of programming on Cohen's SiriusXM channel, Radio Andy, launching this fall. "It's going to be *Housewives*-centered," she says. "But I want to do sketches, too. Like, could you imagine if Teresa Giudice from *The Real Housewives of New Jersey* joined the cast of *Downton Abbey*? I want to bring those worlds together." ♦



People love **Royals**



American Sniper Widow Taya Kyle Life After Chris / Met Gala Jennifer Lawrence, Amal Clooney & More.

SPECIAL
COLLECTOR'S ISSUE

May 18, 2015



CHARLOTTE
ELIZABETH
DIANA of
CAMBRIDGE
BORN MAY 2, 2015
8 LBS. 3 OZS.
8:54 A.M.

CHARLOTTE'S
BABY ALBUM

HOW GEORGE
STOLE THE SHOW!

INSIDE HER FIRST DAYS AT HOME

VIP visitors & bonding with her big brother
Kate's post-baby transformation: How she did it
• William's touching tribute to Diana



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You and Your Favorite Movies: Reunited and It Feels So Good!



An all-new Special Collector's Edition from the
editors of *Entertainment Weekly*

Movies

EDITED BY **STEPHAN LEE** @stephanmlee

▷ REEL NEWS

Chris Pine joins DC's *Wonder Woman* movie, meaning

Marvel no longer has a monopoly on casting guys named

Chris. **LeBron James strikes deal with Warner Bros.**

"Come on and slam, and welcome to the jam?"



▶ **OF ALL THE** parts Meryl Streep has played on screen—nun, nuclear activist, pill-popping matriarch, Prada-clad editrix—she's never been credited as a magician. But that's essentially what she does in every film she appears in: sprinkle the pixie dust of her ineffable Streep-ness over even the most banal scripts and underwritten roles. *Ricki and the Flash* isn't a great movie; its archetypes are tired and its plot turns textbook. But she commits utterly to Ricki, an aging free spirit attempting to reconnect with her three adult children years after leaving them behind to pursue rock stardom. That sacrifice hasn't landed her much beyond a dumpy L.A. apartment, a weekly gig cranking out Tom Petty covers for drowsy barflies in Tarzana, and a sweet but equally broke boyfriend-slash-bandmate (Rick Springfield). When a family emergency calls her back to Indiana, she can barely afford the ticket, and it's clear how poorly she fits into the Midwestern propriety of her old life; with her thumb rings, spiky side braids, and smudged eyeliner, she looks like Stevie Nicks' insolvent sister.

Director Jonathan Demme and screenwriter Diablo Cody, both Oscar winners, have made far better films. Still, *Ricki* raises smart questions about why a mother's musical ambitions are so much more selfish than, say, seven-time dad Mick Jagger's, and even the shamelessly corny sing-along finale wrings a few real tears out. Or maybe it's just the pixie dust. **B-**

THIS FILM CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING:

WS WEED STASH

P POODLES

MT MOM TATTOOS

NR NOSFERATU REFERENCES

Ricki and the Flash

STARRING

Meryl Streep, Mamie Gummer, Kevin Kline, Rick Springfield, Audra McDonald

DIRECTED BY

Jonathan Demme

RATING

PG-13

LENGTH

1 hr., 40 mins.

REVIEW BY

Leah Greenblatt @Leahbats

Kristen Wiig, Bel Powley, and Alexander Skarsgård ▼



The Diary of a Teenage Girl

STARRING

Bel Powley, Alexander Skarsgård, Kristen Wiig, Christopher Meloni

DIRECTED BY

Marielle Heller

RATING

R

LENGTH

1 hr., 41 mins.

REVIEW BY

Leah Greenblatt @Leahbats

▶ **IT'S 1976 IN** San Francisco, and 15-year-old Minnie Goetze (Bel Powley) hasn't so much lost her virginity as sent it up like a rocket flare. "I had sex today!" she confesses breathlessly into a borrowed tape recorder. "This makes me officially an adult." It doesn't, of course, but the guy she's just done it with most definitely qualifies: a mustachioed dreamboat named Monroe (Alexander Skarsgård), who is nearly two decades older—and also happens to be dating her mother (Kristen Wiig).

Though it was widely celebrated at Sundance this year, *Diary* has had less luck with censors; England's ratings board recently slapped it with the equivalent of an NC-17, effectively shutting out a good portion of the movie's target audience. That's too bad, because as unsettling as Marielle Heller's feature-film debut can be—there are moments you'll

ache for Minnie and other ones where you'll want to lock her away—it rings much truer than most coming-of-age stories. A lot of that is due to British actress Powley, who brilliantly captures the raw vulnerability and reckless bravado of adolescence (though in real life she's 23). Skarsgård threads the needle in a tricky role, and Wiig is excellent as a boozy bohemian who sincerely believes in her liberated brand of parenting; if Minnie feels like a grown-up, it's probably because she's often the most responsible one in the room.

Working from Phoebe Gloeckner's 2002 graphic novel/memoir, Heller gets the shabby glamour and bleached sunshine of '70s San Francisco just right, coloring several scenes with vivid blooms of animation. It's more than decoration; art is crucial for aspiring cartoonist Minnie—a lifeline from the girl she still is to the woman she wants to be. **A-**

DIARY INFLUENCES

There is little in *The Diary of a Teenage Girl* that feels conventional. First-time filmmaker Marielle Heller used some unconventional inspirations to transform Phoebe Gloeckner's graphic novel into the must-see indie of the summer.

By Nicole Sperling



ETERNAL SUNSHINE OF THE SPOTLESS MIND (2004)

The Michel Gondry film was a touchstone for Heller as she dealt with *Diary*'s nonlinear storytelling. "All the cool effects in that film felt like they were done in a homemade, real way," she says. "I wanted that same practical, cardboard feel."



LOVELY & AMAZING (2002)

Nicole Holofcener's film guided Heller in dealing with nudity, particularly the scene in which Emily Mortimer stands naked in front of her partner and asks him to critique her body. "That was one of the ballsiest and most realistic nude scenes I had ever seen," says Heller.



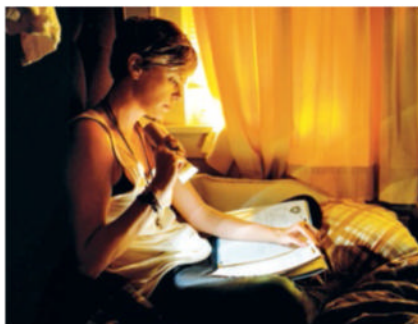
HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH (2001)

Heller looked to John Cameron Mitchell's transgender musical as a model for incorporating different forms of media into her film. "I wanted *Diary* to be a visual feast," she says. "I always felt like *Hedwig* was such an ambitious film and also so emotionally resonant."



HAROLD AND MAUDE (1971)

Heller hopes *Diary* will stick with audiences the way Hal Ashby's classic stuck with her. "You leave that film feeling like humans are interesting and complicated and sad and curious and fascinating," she says. "And you want to watch it again."



◀ Charlize Theron

Dark Places

STARRING Charlize Theron, Nicholas Hoult, Corey Stoll, Christina Hendricks

DIRECTED BY Gilles Paquet-Brenner

RATING R | **LENGTH** 1 hr., 53 mins.

REVIEW BY

Chris Nashawaty @ChrisNashawaty

► **MYSTERY JUNKIES LOOKING** for another *Gone Girl* fix from author Gillian Flynn might want to downshift expectations for this adaptation of her 2009 novel, *Dark Places*. It isn't terrible, exactly, but disappointing considering its cast and source. Charlize Theron stars as Libby Day, the cash-strapped, emotionally scarred survivor of a massacre that occurred 25 years earlier on her family's Kansas farm. Her mother (Christina Hendricks in flashback) and two sisters were killed in cold blood, whereas Libby, who was just 7 at the time, managed to escape. And while her memories of that night are murky, she still carries around anger and guilt from helping to pin the murders on her teenage brother, Ben (Tye Sheridan then, Corey Stoll behind bars now). Written and directed by Gilles Paquet-Brenner (2011's *Sarah's Key*), this so-so procedural starts off with the false promise of the sort of toxic tabloid satire that fueled *Gone Girl*, as Libby is lured by an underground "Kill Club" of ghoulish true-crime obsessives (led by Nicholas Hoult) to help prove Ben's innocence. There's a tantalizing idea in that setup—that Libby's tragedy makes her a twisted kind of celebrity—but it's never pushed far enough. Instead, *Dark Places* just becomes an overstuffed, low-simmer potboiler with too many improbable detours and overly convenient twists. **C+** **L I V**

ALSO PLAYING

Cop Car R, 1 HR., 29 MINS.

Imagine *Stand by Me* directed by the Coen brothers circa *Blood Simple*. Now take that awesome-sounding mash-up, subtract about 60 percent of the fun, and you've got Jon Watts' coming-of-age thriller, *Cop Car*. James Freedson-Jackson and Hays Wellford play 10-year-olds who discover an abandoned police cruiser and take it for a joyride, unaware that it belongs to a menacing, wild-eyed sheriff (Kevin Bacon) and that it has a bloody bad guy in the trunk. Watts, who was recently tapped to direct the next Spider-Man reboot, clearly has a better sense of mood and B-movie mayhem than plotting or pacing. *Cop Car* feels like a great short stretched into a mediocre feature. **C+**

—Chris Nashawaty

Kahlil Gibran's The Prophet PG, 1 HR., 24 MINS.

Kahlil Gibran's 1923 book *The Prophet*—in which the Lebanese author waxes poetic on all matters of living, from love to sorrow—proves fertile soil for this nobly ambitious animated movie. Writer-director Roger Allers (*The Lion King*) and producer Salma Hayek have taken eight of the book's vignettes and overlaid them with a cloying story about the titular prophet (Liam Neeson). Gibran's little life lessons have been turned into three-minute haiku by different animators and spread across the film. Each one soars (especially clay painter Joan Gratz's color-bursting snippet, "On Work"), even if the plot holding them together is frustratingly Disneyish. **B**

—Joe McGovern

L

The Runner R, 1 HR., 30 MINS.

Nicolas Cage can be fascinating to watch when he goes over the top in gonzo fashion. When he dials it back, though, things can get morose fast. In Austin Stark's slow-burn drama about a crusading Louisiana politician who keeps getting in his own way after the 2010 BP oil spill, Cage turns the volume down so low it barely registers. As his calculating wife (Connie Nielsen), father (Peter Fonda), and advisers (Sarah Paulson, Wendell Pierce) all grapple for his soul, Cage's flawed idealist turns to the bottle and expedient compromise. *The Runner* is a well-meaning character study with an admirably cynical ending, but it's too cold to ever fully draw you in. **B-**

—Chris Nashawaty

L I V



MORE ON EW.COM
Fantastic Four and *The Gift* (out Aug. 7) didn't screen by our deadline, but you can find our reviews on EW.com



CRITICAL MASS

For **10 current releases**, we compare EW's grade with scores averaged from IMDb, Metacritic, and Rotten Tomatoes

EW		IMDb	META-CRITIC	ROTTEN TOMATOES	AVG.
A-	SHAUN THE SHEEP MOVIE	74	81	100	85
A-	THE END OF THE TOUR	74	84	90	83
B+	MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE ROGUE NATION	83	75	92	83
B+	TRAINWRECK	71	75	85	77
B	ANT-MAN	79	64	79	74
C+	SOUTHPAW	80	57	58	65
B	PAPER TOWNS	71	57	55	61
C+	MINIONS	67	56	54	59
B-	VACATION ▲	59	33	25	39
D+	PIXELS	54	27	18	33

KEY **L** = LIMITED RELEASE **I** = ITUNES **V** = VOD

TV

EDITED BY AMY WILKINSON @amymwilk



▲ Oscar Isaac

Show Me a Hero

DATE	TIME	NETWORK	REVIEW BY
Debuts Aug. 16	8 p.m.	HBO	Melissa Maerz @MsMelissaMaerz



SHOWRUNNER DAVID SIMON builds fully realized worlds on TV like a mythological god builds a universe of tiny humans. His shows are vivid microcosms of American cities—Baltimore for *The Wire*, New Orleans for *Treme*—and he pieces them together with an exquisite eye for detail, positioning a police precinct here, a housing project there, slowly populating the streets with addicts and detectives and officials with interconnected lives, training a magnifying glass on each character before pulling back for a breathtaking overhead view of the place where they live.

His new six-part miniseries is another masterwork of storytelling that's both miniaturist and epic in scale. Based on Lisa Belkin's nonfiction book of the same name, *Show*

Me a Hero focuses on Nick Wasicsko (Oscar Isaac), a young mayor who was court-ordered to build low-income housing units in Yonkers, N.Y., during the 1980s and '90s, when white property owners fought viciously to keep them out and the battle between the public and the government nearly destroyed the city. But like Yonkers itself, this show isn't just about Wasicsko—it's about the people he represents. There's something righteously populist about the way Simon devotes equal attention to Norma (LaTanya Richardson-Jackson), Doreen (Natalie Paul), and Carmen (Ilfenesh Hadera), three single moms whose lives could change with low-income housing, and to Mary (Catherine Keener), a white woman who fears her neighborhood will be destroyed if the units are built. It's a human story, one that makes you empathize with everyone involved. And it's also a mythic

LOGLINES

Casting *Thrones* Film legend Max von Sydow and

Deadwood actor Ian McShane join the HBO series' sixth

season. **Ta-ta to *Downton Abbey*** Mark your Crawley-of-

the-Month calendars: The final season begins Jan. 3.

RECOGNIZE THIS CAST?



Catherine Keener

Who's that gray-haired woman in the supersize specs? It's Keener playing a protester angry about low-income housing in Yonkers.



Winona Ryder

She nails the New York accent as Vinni Restiano, a Yonkers councilwoman and confidante to Nick Wasicsko.



Jim Belushi

He gives a great "Oh God, what now?" face as Yonkers' ex-mayor Angelo Martinelli.

story, one that speaks to the institutional limitations of the American dream.

The title comes from F. Scott Fitzgerald: "Show me a hero," he penned in his published notebooks, "and I'll write you a tragedy." The reference is somewhat ironic. Those who know what really happened in Yonkers know that no one involved was a hero. (If you aren't familiar with the story, you might want to refrain from Googling "Nick Wasicsko" so it won't be spoiled.) Simon never paints the low-income housing residents as saints. One mother smokes crack during a vulnerable moment. One teenager drops out of school because she can't even be bothered to show up. They're flawed, but not any more than Wasicsko or Mary. This is Simon's way of getting us to ask ourselves bigger questions: Why do we expect low-income housing residents to be model citizens when we don't expect the same from homeowners? Why is it okay to police the poor and not the middle class?

Simon's not really writing a tragedy either. He always makes it clear that one person's tragedy is another's victory, especially when it comes to politics. Watching a drama about a public-housing debate might sound boring until you see the incredibly suspenseful scenes where Wasicsko goes head-to-head with furious council members and a stone-faced judge, each threatening to bankrupt the city or throw someone in jail, as control swings wildly from one to another. The courtroom scenes are riveting, and so is Isaac's emotional performance. Wasicsko is a man obsessed with power and ego, but he's driven by the same heartfelt, hopeful belief as this thoughtful drama: Everyone deserves a place to call home. **A**



Julie Klausner

If you aren't already following the pop-culture-crazed comedian on Twitter (*why not!*?), you can start righting that wrong by tuning in to her cunning, cutting new Hulu comedy, ***Difficult People*** (Wednesdays). By Amy Wilkinson

Ask Julie Klausner to detail her meet-cute with *Difficult People* EP Amy Poehler and she'll tell you a story about graduating from New York University in 2000 with a deep desire to do comedy but no more experience than a degree in "dicking around." She'll tell you about the fake ID she procured, not for sipping vodka cranberries but for sneaking into the Luna Lounge to watch stand-ups on a Monday. And, with great fondness, she'll recall discovering the improv group Upright Citizens Brigade—cofounded by Poehler—and listening to Andy Richter's monologue about the burrito diet that left his fingernails peeling. "As I took classes and started performing, I really was lucky enough to find my tribe," the 37-year-old Scarsdale, N.Y., native says.

Years of podcasting ("How Was Your Week?"), writing (the memoir *I Don't Care About Your Band*), and TV roles (*Ugly Americans*) followed, but when Klausner needed guidance on her *Difficult People* script, it was Poehler she turned to. "She's true to herself in this insane business, which is so rare." And while Klausner, alongside Billy Eichner, plays a more "grandiose and stupid" version of herself on the Hulu series about two struggling comics, she too is trying to remain true to herself. "This is not a show I created [thinking] I'm going to make a million dollars," Klausner says. "I said, 'If I had the opportunity to make any TV show, what would that be?' This would be that show." Maybe she should have called it *Determined People*.



Josh Charles

The 43-year-old actor has one foot in drama and the other in comedy: He's a fragrance entrepreneur on Showtime's *Masters of Sex* and a preppy jerk on Netflix's *Wet Hot American Summer* prequel. Charles traces the steps of his diverse career. **By Dan Snierson**



1 Hairspray 1988

At age 15, Charles landed his first role as Iggy in John Waters' musical.

"Getting to work with John Waters, Divine, Debbie Harry, and Sonny Bono—it was an absolutely incredible summer and so much fun to put on the costumes and do all the dance rehearsals.... I had my first line in a movie—"Would you ever swim in an integrated swimming pool?"—and I had a cold. I sound stuffed up, and it looks like I'm making some kind of choice to make the guy really snobby. In fact, he's really snotty."



2 Dead Poets Society 1989

He played lovesick student Knox Overstreet in the coming-of-age drama.

"[Director] Peter Weir wanted a shot of me on my bicycle, coming down the hill, riding through these geese, and having them fly off. It was really wet on the hillside, so we didn't think it was safe for me to ride, and the geese wouldn't fly—they wouldn't be scared. I said to Peter, 'Let me just

ride through them. If that doesn't scare them, I don't know what will.' It's a shot, cinematically, that when I saw it, I was blown away. It speaks so much to the story, and you got to really see what Peter was going for, this sense of taking flight."

3 Don't Tell Mom the Babysitter's Dead 1991

As Bryan, he toiled at a burger joint and romanced Christina Applegate.

"The first thing that comes to mind is Christina and how supercool she was. She still is. What a fan I was from *Married... With Children*. I had so much fun working with her and shooting all around L.A. This film makes every 24-year-old girl I meet happy.... The fast-food place we shot in, [which served as] the Clown Dog, was on Sunset, and I read somewhere that it's now a Chipotle."

4 Sports Night 1998–2000

Charles starred as smart-mouthed sports anchor Dan Rydell on this Aaron Sorkin series.

"It was not the easiest show to make—it's tricky to turn all that out quickly—but I laughed so hard making that show. Working with someone like Robert Guillaume—his grace and calm and absolute badass charm was memorable. And the friendships that

have endured: Josh Malina is still a very good friend, as is Peter [Krause]. Peter and I spent a lot of time together. We made each other laugh so hard it was hard to get through takes sometimes. No actor I've worked with has made me laugh harder."

5 The Good Wife 2009–14

Fans certainly had no objection to romantic pragmatist lawyer Will Gardner.

"What a great gift it was to work on that show. Julianna [Margulies] and my darling Christine Baranski made going to work fun every day.... Will didn't have a ton to do in the pilot, but I was told he was going to be an important character. The writing was smart, but never in my wildest dreams did I think it would keep eclipsing itself.... Any TV show is a leap of faith, so you take it, and I'm really glad I did."

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POSTMORTEM

UnREAL Finale: No Fantasy Sweet

The Lifetime series wrapped its first season with nary a happy ending to be found. We talk with creators Marti Noxon and Sarah Gertrude Shapiro about the stunner of a finale—and what to expect in season 2. **By Shirley Li**

► QUINN AND RACHEL FALL HARD

If any two characters should have been wary of fairy-tale endings, it's resident antiheroines and reality-dating-show producers Quinn (Constance Zimmer) and Rachel (Shiri Appleby). Yet they too succumbed to bad romances—Quinn with boss Chet (Craig Bierko), Rachel with suitor Adam (Freddie Stroma) and ex Jeremy (Josh Kelly). "Because the princess fantasy was such a big theme for us, [we liked] the idea that even though Quinn and Rachel should be immune to it because they create it for a living, they both fall prey to it," Shapiro says. "My favorite scene in the whole season is [the one] in the hotel room where Quinn wakes up and Rachel's just staring at her. At the end of the season, Rachel's in bed with Quinn, because she has just absolutely screwed up her life."

► THE EPISODE COULD HAVE BEEN EVEN MORE GRIM

Even though Rachel was heartbroken, was humiliated in front of the entire *Everlasting* crew, and had little hope of ever running her own show, Noxon says her twisted protagonist got off easier than she had planned. "For a while, I was stuck on it being even darker," she admits. To wit, Rachel's relationship with Adam was doomed from the start in order to push the character in a new direction. "We definitely knew Rachel was going to have to watch the guy she had fallen in love with propose to somebody else," Shapiro says. "We talked about it as the 'Walter White moment,' when he's burning down the warehouse [on *Breaking Bad*]. Like, she's gone, she's on the other side now."

► THE HOST WITH THE MOST

The character Noxon and Shapiro wish they could have given

more screen time? The boastful master of ceremonies, played by Brennan Elliott. "We gave him the assignment of driving Adam insane, and he absolutely delivered," Shapiro says. "He would be in character all the time. He was whispering softly in Freddie's ear all the time making horrible jokes. I think Freddie could barely stand being around him." Says Noxon, "We could have a whole show just about his character."

► COMING UP ON SEASON 2...

Noxon promises the second season will still be about the crew behind *Everlasting* but can't say what form it will take. "We don't know exactly if it's going to be *Everlasting in Paradise* or *Everlasting: To the Death*, or *Catfight Edition*," she says. Adds Shapiro: "There's three things we know for sure: *Everlasting*, Quinn, and Rachel."



▲ Arielle Kebbel (who returned for the finale) and Freddie Stroma



◀ Shiri Appleby and Constance Zimmer

50 SCOOPS IN 50 DAYS: SLEEPY HOLLOW EDITION



◀ Nikki Reed as Betsy Ross

We've been dishing out the scoops ahead of our Fall TV Preview issue (on stands Sept. 10). Follow along with #50Scoops50Days.

Somehow we think she's going to do a lot more than sew. Here's your first look at *Sleepy Hollow*'s version of original

American-flag maker Betsy Ross as played by *The Twilight Saga*'s Nikki Reed. In season 3 of Fox's historical fantasy, Ross is the only female member of George Washington's "Culper Spy Ring," and her 13-star flag has supernatural properties that will aid

Crane (Tom Mison) and Abbie (Nicole Beharie). *Hollow* will also take advantage of Reed's real-life equestrian skills (and luckily for Crane & Co., the show's other rider—the Headless Horseman—will stay in the stable this season). —James Hibberd

What to Watch

A DAY-TO-DAY GUIDE TO NOTABLE PROGRAMS* BY RAY RAHMAN @RayRahman



Season Finale

HUMANS

SUNDAY, AUG. 16 | 9-10PM | AMC

Anyone can tell synths and humans apart thanks to their charging ports. But Gemma Chan, who plays the newly freed “conscious” synth Mia (“Anita” to the Hawkins clan), says even synths with emotions will have a hard time identifying the robots from the flesh-and-blood in *Humans*’ final two episodes. “The line is blurring,” Chan says. “Mia feels like she’s part of two families now.... That’s the driving force for her.” Still, not everyone in the Hawkins household accepts Mia: Joe (Tom Goodman-Hill, above) remains intent on eliminating her synth family, even if it tears his own family apart. “He just wants someone official to say, ‘Everything’s going to be okay, Joe,’” Goodman-Hill says of his character. “It’s gotten so far out of control.” Goodman-Hill also adds that no character is more out of control than Karen (Ruth Bradley), the former police-synth last seen embarking on a mysterious solo mission. “Keep your eye on her,” he says. “She’s the great dark horse of the series.” —Shirley Li

MUST
WATCH
OF THE
WEEK

MONDAY AUGUST 10



Series Debut

► She's Got Game

9-10PM | VH1

Like everyone, the Game is looking for love. So the rapper is going about it the usual way—being filmed dating 10 women hand-picked by his famous friends (Fat Joe, Keyshia Cole, Ray J). You see, despite his hip-hop lifestyle, “I never get 10 women thrust in my face all at the same time!” the 35-year-old assures us. He will bond with the women on planes, boats, and tour buses as he promotes his upcoming album—and each week, one lady gets cut. But don’t expect any *Bachelor*-style rose ceremonies. “It’s pretty much just ‘You’re done,’” Game says of the eliminations. Will the show end with a proposal? Says the rapper, “The most [I want] is just a woman to support me.” —Dana Rose Falcone

► Cake Wars

8-9PM | FOOD

Four competing bakers must make a cake inspired by *The Sound of Music*. So...no German chocolate cake?

► Significant Mother

9:30-10PM | THE CW

Nate goes on a date with a “notorious cougar” played by Denise Richards. Jennifer Coolidge must be on vacation!

► Cuban Chrome

10-11PM | DISCOVERY

Tonight’s episode features emotional footage of citizens finding out about the opening of U.S. relations for the first time. The reaction is mainly positive, but wait until they meet our tourists.

► Teen Wolf

10-11PM | MTV

Deaton discovers something horrifying about the Dread Doctors: They cheated on their MCAT exams.

► The Whispers

10-11PM | ABC

A.k.a. *Kill Drill*.

BIG LOVE

► I Am Chris Farley

9-11PM | SPIKE

This intimate doc about the late star will probably make you want to rewatch *Tommy Boy*.



TUESDAY AUGUST 11



Series Debut

► The Agent

10-11PM | ESQUIRE

As one of the central figures on *The Agent* points out, there's something mildly creepy about a group of middle-aged dudes making aggressive sales pitches to overwhelmed college juniors. But such is the reality of the subjects of this new docu-series, which was shot in the run-up to the 2015 NFL draft. *The Agent* wants to drive home that this life has nothing to do with the sexy misadventures on *Ballers*, but that clear-eyed look at what it takes to be a representative of pro athletes also eliminates any form of fun. *The Agent* is as tedious as the NFL scouting combine, and will appeal only to hardcore pigskin aficionados who can't get enough debates about wingspan.

C—Kyle Anderson

Season Finale

► Pretty Little Liars

8-9PM | ABC FAMILY

Who is Red Coat? Who killed Bethany? What is happening??

► Rizzoli & Isles

9-10PM | TNT

Jane and Maura look into the murder of a college student who had 32 girlfriends. Man, I had no idea Leonardo DiCaprio was still in college.

Season Premiere

► Hard Knocks: Training Camp With the Houston Texans

10-11PM | HBO

Want more football-oriented programming on your TV? Well, too bad, you're getting it anyway. Autumn is coming!

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 12

Series Debut

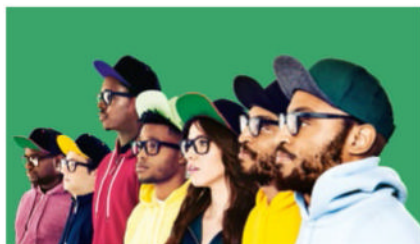
► Kevin From Work

8-9PM | ABC FAMILY

Last fall, the networks trotted out an army of rom-coms, from *A to Z* to *Selfie*. None of them stuck, though, and the cancellations were merciless. Evidently, ABC Family was taking notes, because their latest effort has the makings of a winner. The concept is simple: Kevin (Noah Reid) confesses his love to co-worker Audrey (Paige Spara) on his last day at work...which turns out not to be his last day. That short-and-sweet premise lets *Kevin From Work* bounce along with a zippy, mischievous sense of humor. Amy Sedaris and Matt Murray stand out as the boss and the best friend, respectively, but thanks to clever writing and smart pacing, everyone from *Work* gets a chance to shine. B+



THURSDAY AUGUST 13



► Friends of the People

10:30-11PM | TRUTV

If you haven't figured it out yet, we'll tell you again: *Friends of the People* is a constant source for great sketch comedy. Just ask David Alan Grier—the *In Living Color* star makes a small but hilarious appearance in tonight's episode. It's a fitting cameo, given how much DNA *Friends* shares with the former Fox series. Also look forward to a clever (and rabies-riddled) *Teen Wolf* spoof, a dinosaur cop known as Jurassic Narc, and a behind-the-scenes peek at how the subliminal imagery in Disney films gets made. If anyone can find a funny way to use the phrase "balls and Nazis," it's these guys. B+

► Review

10-10:30PM

COMEDY CENTRAL

Forrest has sex with a high school teacher. Cue the Van Halen!

WHEN IN DOME

► Under the Dome

10-11PM | CBS

Big Jim and Julia come up with a plan to end Christine's control over the town. They should put her in a second dome!



► Sex&Drugs&Rock & Roll

10-10:30PM | FX

Gigi wants the band to see a music therapist, which is just a regular therapist with a Spotify account.

Season Finale

► Rectify

10-11PM | SUNDANCETV

An introspective-Southern-drama fix free of Racist Atticus Finches? Yay!

► Married

10:30-11PM | FX

Russ and Lina go to extreme lengths for their family vacation. Um, is that supposed to be code for divorce?

► Maron

10-10:30PM | IFC

Marc Maron in real life has had a good year—as you might recall, he landed a candid interview with none other than President Obama. The Maron on *Maron*, however, is having a rockier time. His pilot is ready to shoot, but he's anything but. Worse, his first guest, Will Ferrell, fell through, so now he's stuck with Ken Marino—"lower on the list than Dax Shepard." So he copes with the stress the only way he knows how: by hilariously self-destructing. I won't tell you how Maron's pilot shakes out because it's worth seeing yourself, but let's just say that it's not-good and great at the same time. A-



SEASON FINALE

FRIDAY AUGUST 14



Season Premiere

► Edge of Alaska

9-10PM | DISCOVERY

Life in the wilderness of McCarthy, Alaska (population: 42), has its expected cons. For instance, in the season 2 premiere of that town's very own reality show, a family mourns the loss of their dog after a pack of wolves leaves it dead in the snow. Sound depressing? It is—though watching how the family, and the community, deals with the unpleasant effects of living in remote territory is also intriguing and, at times, beautiful. *Edge of Alaska* might not be revolutionary—it's similar to many of the other wilderness-focused docuseries in both style and story—but it does provide a thorough (if occasionally mundane) look at a world few are familiar with, giving it an edge on the competition. **B** —Ariana Bacile

► Girl Meets World

8:30-9PM | DISNEY

Charlie asks Riley to be his date to the semiformal dance. Aww, how semi-romantic.

► Demetri Martin: Live (At the Time)

STREAMING | NETFLIX

If you're not into the clever comedy of this Yale-educated comedian, then you probably went to Harvard.

Series Debut

► Dinotrux

STREAMING | NETFLIX

Love *Jurassic World* and *Transformers*, but wish you could combine them? Good news: There's an animated series about dinosaur-truck hybrids just for you.

SATURDAY AUGUST 15

► Doctor Who: The Doctor's Finest

8-11PM | BBC AMERICA

Time to warm up your TARDIS: For six weeks, the show's cast and crew will revisit the eight most popular *Who* episodes of the past decade.



Season Finale

► Power

9-10PM | STARZ

The episode is ominously titled "Ghost Is Dead." Does that mean *Empire* won?

► Sugar Babies

8-10PM | LIFETIME

A film about young women with sugar daddies? In terms of Lifetime movies, this is basically an Oscar winner.

► Hannibal

10-11PM | NBC

Only three episodes left. Devour them all!

SUNDAY AUGUST 16



► Teen Choice 2015

8-10PM | FOX

Living up to its name, the live show will feature the kinds of categories important to hormonal teens: kisses, hotties, and Vine stars. This year's Teen Choice Awards will also feature a first-time host: *Jane the Virgin* star Gina Rodriguez, who'll share the duties with Ludacris and Josh Peck. Since this is her first crack at helming a major awards show, she admits she's a little nervous. "I'm looking forward to hopefully not tripping on my dress!" Rodriguez says. Will she be bringing along the steamy, Emmy-nominated narrator from her show to help? "If they let me," jokes Rodriguez. "He can just narrate my every move!" —Christian Holub

► America. The Beautiful.

7-8PM | TRAVEL

The new show offers immersive views of national wonders like Yellowstone National Park and other places you've always felt guilty about not visiting.

► The Last Ship

9-10PM | TNT

The crew goes to New Orleans and learns something terrifying: Mardi Gras has been canceled.



► Stewarts & Hamiltons

9-10PM | E!

Or as it's known to most, *That Show After I Am Cait*.

► Ballers

10-10:30PM | HBO

Joe starts to feel slighted when he's overlooked at work. To be fair, everyone feels slight next to the Rock.

► Masters of Sex

10-11PM | SHOWTIME

Masters and Johnson take on a celebrity couple. Could they be early Kardashian ancestors?

► Ed Sheeran—Live at Wembley Stadium

8-9PM | NBC

"It was my birthday wish to play Wembley when I cut my cake last year," Sheeran said during the filming of this special. Needless to say, his wish came true. The one-hour concert doc "follows Ed from home to stadium as he prepares for the biggest shows of his life," says producer Stefan Demetriou. He also promises "revealing footage from the dressing room and backstage, including an inspiring pep talk from Sir Elton John." No pressure, Ed!



SEEING RED

Music

EDITED BY LEAH GREENBLATT @Leahbats

▶ NOTEWORTHY

One Direction defector **Zayn Malik** has signed a solo deal with RCA. **Nile Rodgers** and **Beck** are recording together.

Lorde, **The Weeknd**, and **Miguel** will guest on U.K. dance

duo **Disclosure**'s sophomore disc, *Caracal*, due Sept. 25.



Luke Bryan

	TITLE Kill the Lights	LABEL Capitol Records Nashville
	GENRE Country	REVIEW BY Madison Vain @tweetsinvain

▶ **IS THERE A** bigger country star in the world right now than Luke Bryan? Consider these facts: His last studio album, 2013's *Crash My Party*, spawned six(!) No. 1 singles, sold 2.5 million copies, and graduated him into the elite class of Nashville entertainers who sell out stadiums and sweep awards shows. It was big and bold, and undoubtedly, it was *bro*. Bryan leads the beer-soaked sub-genre dubbed "bro country," a heady mix of '80s arena-rock riffs, '90s hip-hop swagger, and lavish pop production that pays lyrical tribute to pickup trucks, honky-tonks, and getting that girl—you know, the pretty one sittin' on the fence in cutoff jeans and a white tank top—to shimmy on over here.

Considering *Crash*'s success, messing with the formula on *Kill the Lights* would be a calculated risk. And *Lights* is nothing if not calculating. The album opens with "Kick the Dust Up," a rap-style boom-thwack that ignites into the fist-pumping command "Fill your cup up/That's what's up up!" "Home Alone Tonight" has the Georgia native wooing a hottie—huskily voiced by Little Big Town colead Karen Fairchild—with his bottomless bar tab and challenging her to go shot for shot. And on "Move," he's all wrapped up in a lady with a "rockin' little body" and...well, you get the idea.

But it's not all babes and brewskis. Occasionally, Bryan checks in as the pushing-40 husband and father of two he is. And slow-burners like "Strip It Down" and "To the Moon and Back," which both find the sexy in long-term monogamy, are the moments that work best. Songs like these, easy and open-hearted, hopefully signal a more genuine direction not just for Bryan, but for the format he currently fronts. **B**

BEST TRACKS "Strip It Down" A sultry swirl of piano, tambourine, and steel guitar | "To the Moon and Back" A warm "I'll love you forever, I'll like you for always" promise

WHAT'S THAT SONG?

TV Jukebox

EW scopes out the best musical moments from recent episodes of your favorite shows



PRETTY LITTLE LIARS

THE SONG

"Lost Someone," James Brown and the Famous Flames

THE SCENE

As not one, but two versions of evil "A" prepare to wreak prom havoc in the July 28 episode's final scene, even this dreamy 1961 deep cut from the King of Soul somehow feels ominous.



HALT AND CATCH FIRE

THE SONG

"Heaven," Talking Heads

THE SCENE

As the Mutiny gang boards the plane to move to Silicon Valley in the Aug. 2 season finale, this 1979 cult classic ("Heaven is a place, a place where nothing, nothing ever happens") highlights the group's (misguided?) optimism.



UNREAL

THE SONG

"All Along," Perfume Genius

THE SCENE

Rachel (Shiri Appleby) and Adam's (Freddie Stroma) sudden, rain-soaked breakup is underscored by the indie-pop auteur's trembling lament ("You wasted my time/You wasted my time") in the Aug. 3 finale.



WET HOT AMERICAN SUMMER: FIRST DAY OF CAMP

THE SONG "Ah! Leah!" Donnie Iris

THE SCENE

Resident Camp Firewood DJ Arty (George Dalton) kicks off a commercial-free run in episode 2 with this 1980 new-wave nugget, just in time for the arrival of a foxy new counselor actually named Lindsay (Elizabeth Banks).



SCREAM

THE SONG

"Hurts Like Hell," Fleurie

THE SCENE

Ignoring the fallout from the leaked video of her girl-on-girl kiss, Emma (Willa Fitzgerald) focuses instead on a vigil for her dead classmates in the July 28 ep as Fleurie's mournful, atmospheric piano ballad unfurls.



SUITS

THE SONG

"Into the Wild," Wrabel

THE SCENE

Harvey (Gabriel Macht) wakes from a bad dream to this falsetto thumper in the July 29 ep—and recalls a revealing talk (hello, mommy issues!) with Dr. Agard (Christina Cole). —Dana Rose Falcone and Isabella Biedenbarn

Robyn & La Bagatelle Magique



TITLE

Love Is Free

LABEL

Konichiwa

GENRE

Pop

REVIEW BY

Kyle Anderson @KyleAEW

IT'S BEEN FIVE years since Swedish pop sprite Robyn unleashed her last full album. That record, *Body Talk*, and its signature song, the weepy disco anthem "Dancing on My Own," was a triumph of Scandinavian bubblegum that thrilled dancing tweens, twitchy hipsters, and Lena Dunham in equal measure. Since then, she has teased us with two EPs: last year's *Do It Again*, a collaboration with Norwegian electro weirdos Röyksopp; and this tag team with keyboardist Markus Jägerstedt and producer Christian Falk.

While nothing on *Love Is Free* captures the glacier-melting glow of "Call Your Girlfriend," "Hang With Me," and other now-classic Robyn gems, it's still a thrilling ride. The bulk of the five-track EP aims directly for the neon lights of the discotheque; while the Röyksopp stuff from last year could be mistaken for head music, *Love Is Free* speaks primarily to the groin. "Lose Control" opens with perhaps the clubbiest beat Robyn has ever cooed over, and she handles the seismic thump with appropriate guts and gusto. Tracks like the house-music rave-up "Love Is Free" and frothy "Set Me Free," replete with videogame squiggles and skronking digital brass, happily celebrate bubbling hedonism.

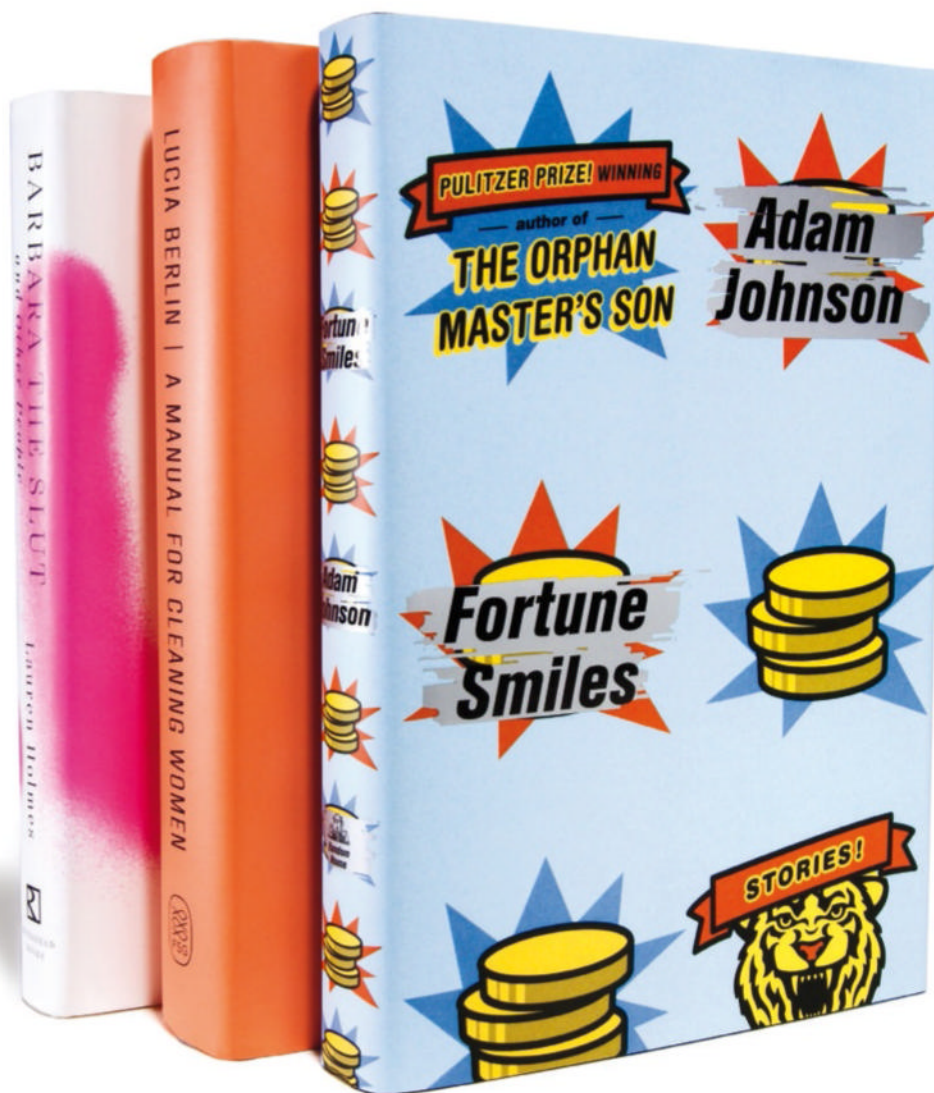
Love offers a satisfying sprint for hungry fans and acts as a sort of adrenalized tribute to Falk, who passed away during production last year. But it's also the sound of Robyn withholding the tears-on-the-dance-floor melancholy that has made her so adored. Throwing your hands in the air can be cathartic, but nothing beats a good cry. **B**



Markus Jägerstedt and Robyn

Books

EDITED BY **TINA JORDAN** @EWTinaJordan



Short and Sweet

Like hemlines, attention spans tend to get shorter in the summertime. Thankfully, these three new standout short-story collections deliver big payoffs in bite-size portions. **By Leah Greenblatt**

► FORTUNE SMILES

Adam Johnson

Johnson's last novel, the high-wire dystopian satire *The Orphan Master's Son*, peeled back the curtain on North Korea and won him a Pulitzer. *Fortune's* six stories are mostly grounded in more familiar settings, but strangeness thrums beneath them all. The characters—a UPS driver in post-Katrina Louisiana, a cancer patient, a self-loathing pedophile, a mismatched pair of Korean defectors, the former warden of a Stasi prison—are all displaced in some way, exiled or lost or just gone astray. The best story may be the first: "Nirvana," a beautifully calibrated near-future fable about a Silicon Valley programmer who reanimates an assassinated president to help him cope with the illness of his young wife. But every one carves out its own little corner of weird, indelible humanity. **A+**

If you read just one: "Nirvana"

► BARBARA THE SLUT AND OTHER PEOPLE

Lauren Holmes

There may be no literary topic more painfully navel-gazey than millennial ennui. Pity the poor youth, with their Snapchat regrets and selfie sticks! But Holmes brings a cool, stripped-down wit to *Slut's* 10 shaggy-dog stories. (Literally, one is narrated by a dog.) Her bored office workers, unmoored grad students, and promiscuous teens all seem to be

▶ BETWEEN THE LINES

Big Deal Algonquin acquired a YA novel from Andrew

McCarthy. **Tweet Talk** "Dear aspiring writers: It took me

19 books and several decades to have this terrific year with

The Cartel. Keep writing. Never give up." —@donwinslow

waiting for something vaguely more exciting to happen, but they don't particularly feel the world owes them anything. Narratives drift, and sometimes all that Zen detachment flattens into apathy. At her best, though, Holmes comes off like the smartest stoner friend you had in college: loopy, deadpan, and accidentally-on-purpose profound. **B+** **E**

If you read just one: "Desert Hearts

▶ A MANUAL FOR CLEANING WOMEN

Lucia Berlin

Berlin, who died in 2004, has been called "one of America's best-kept secrets." She also might be the most interesting person you've never met. Born in Alaska in 1936, she went on to become a debutante in Santiago, a maid and ER nurse in California, a college professor, a three-time divorcee, and a mother of four. Life (and a long battle with alcohol) prevented her from publishing regularly, but it's all here in 43 autobiographical stories that read like one long, fascinating conversation full of switchbacks and revelations. Every detox ward, dingy Laundromat, and sunbaked Mexican *palapa* spills across the page in sentences so bright and fierce and full of wild color that you'll want to turn each one over just to see how she does it. And then go back and read them all again. **A** **E**

If you read just one: "Tiger Bites"

QUICK TAKES



Villa America
LIZA KLAUSSMANN
Novel

A decades-spanning saga set largely against the crystal blue French Riviera, *Villa America* chronicles the loves and losses of Sara and Gerald Murphy—real-life expats and arts patrons perhaps best known as the inspiration for F. Scott Fitzgerald's *Tender Is the Night*. Fitzgerald, along with many of his Lost Generation peers (Ernest Hemingway and John Dos Passos among them), figures prominently, but the true stars here are the beautiful and benevolent Murphys, whose seemingly charmed marriage comes to be tested by both Gerald's closeted sexuality—brought to the fore by a handsome pilot who befriends the couple—and a string of family tragedies. *Villa America* is a vivid and affecting portrait of the couple and their raucous times, as well as one of the saddest, most romantic historical novels you'll read this year. **A**

—Amy Wilkinson
E C A



Make Your Home Among Strangers
JENNINE CAPO CRUCET
Novel

A working-class girl secretly applies to an elite university that's out of reach for her, both financially and academically. She gets accepted but flounders once she's there, unable to understand the rarefied norms of her more privileged peers. That's the premise for many debut novels, but few are as furious, funny, or thorny as this one. Crucet's young narrator is Lizet, the daughter of Cuban immigrants who've settled in Miami. As soon as she arrives at the prestigious Rawlings College against her family's wishes, she immediately faces academic challenges and social obstacles—in the form of micro-aggressions from her otherwise worldly classmates—that seem impossible to overcome. Crucet captures the vernacular of Lizet's world at home and the unbearable alienation in her campus life with a realism that's hard to forget. **A-**

—Stephan Lee
E



Survive the Night
DANIELLE VEGA
YA

If you think YA horror might be a watered-down version of the adult stuff, or might at least have a happy ending, you clearly haven't encountered Vega. In *Survive the Night*, she sticks with her favorite theme: peer pressure gone wrong. High school soccer star Casey Myrtle is fresh out of rehab after the potent combination of a torn ACL and a dangerous new friend left her with a severe painkiller addiction. Shana, the wild ringleader, takes Casey and their other friends to an underground rave called "Survive the Night" in an NYC subway tunnel, where no one can leave until morning. But when one of their friends turns up dead, the others have to find a way out. In excruciatingly visceral detail, Vega unfolds a fast-paced tale that will make you reconsider public transportation. **B+**

—Isabella Biedenbarn
E



Margaret Atwood Gets Sketchy

In a freewheeling chat ahead of her new novel *The Heart Goes Last*, coming this fall, the author—who's conjured some of fiction's most indelible dystopias—reveals that she's drawing comics for Hope Nicholson's Kickstarter-funded book *The Secret Loves of Geek Girls*, pondering Bugs Bunny's brass brassiere, and reading a seven-volume series about the Middle Ages (in French!). —Isabella Biedenharn



◀ Margaret Atwood

EW So what will your cartoons be about?

MARGARET ATWOOD I'm not going to tell you! That's going to be a surprise.

Nothing?

One of them will probably be about being nearsighted and vain in the age before contacts. So I never actually saw my boy-friends. I knew their shirt buttons.

When did you first start drawing cartoons?

When I was 6. Remember, it was the comic-book generation. We read *Batman*, *Superman*, *Captain Marvel*, and ❶ *Plastic Man*, who could transform himself into anything: He might be a lamp, or he might ooze under your door in a long string, but you could tell it was him because of the colors. And his way of capturing criminals was to wrap himself around them. [Laughs] He wore dark glasses and talked jazz, so I thought he was cool.

Did you feel excluded from comics in any way?

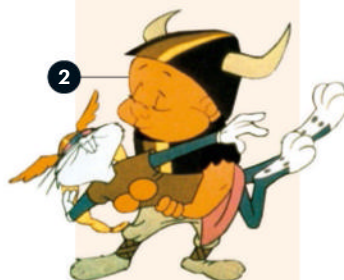
No. Girls have no problems reading stories about boys. Boys have some problems reading stories about girls, but that seems to be equalizing somewhat as the superheroines of today get more muscly and active. In the olden days of *Batman*, the person who was like that was Catwoman. I always suspected maybe there was a little thing between Batman and Catwoman. Don't you think?

I do, but I've seen the movies now, which sort of ruins it.

Oh, well. The movies. So if you want to read my Freudian and Jungian analysis of Batman, you can look in my book called *In Other Worlds*. Why did all these superheroes wear tights, where did the cloak come from? Have you ever seen ❷ Bugs Bunny's "What's Opera, Doc?"?

I haven't.

Elmer is trying to kill Bugs Bunny as usual, and Bugs disguises himself as a Wagnerian heroine, complete with the helmet and the brass brassiere. Where did



the brassiere come from? Why did everybody immediately recognize it?

I don't know—why?

Well, you can read the heavily researched article that I did for *Playboy*.

What are you reading now?

I have a big pile—*Avatar: The Last Airbender*, *Harlequin Valentine*, *Bandette*, *Green River Killer: A True Detective Story*. I'm also reading ❸ *Storm of Steel*, the definitive World War I account from the German point of view.

I hear you're a *Game of Thrones* fan.

The interesting thing about ❹ *Game of Thrones* is that it's not finished yet, so you can't find out what happens next. Some of us don't believe that Jon Snow is really dead. And others of us are placing our bets on the Mother of Dragons.

You've written about *Game of Thrones'* influences.

[George R.R. Martin] says a French series by Maurice Druon, which starts with *The Iron King*, was inspirational for him. Everything that's in *Game of Thrones*—disembowelments, dismemberments, poisonings—took place in real life. I read Druon's series in French, learning words that I didn't know: "evisceration" and "cut off his genitalia and broil them." Not things you can use in ordinary conversation.

You'll find a way.

Well, I just did, didn't I?



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Fall Books Preview

If there's one consolation that summer's almost over, it's that the best books of the year are on their way.

Take a look at this year's dazzlingly rich fall season, stuffed with works from Elena Ferrante, Jonathan Franzen, Brian Selznick, and Patti Smith, to name just a few. **By Isabella Biedenharn & Tina Jordan**

Blockbuster Novels

SEPT. 1 **The Story of the Lost Child**

Elena Ferrante

Ferrante's final Neapolitan novel follows Lila and Elena as they wrestle with their fraught, decades-long friendship.

Purity **Jonathan Franzen**

In Franzen's long-awaited doorstep of a novel, a girl named Purity embarks on a journey through South America to find herself.

SEPT. 8 **Did You Ever Have a Family** **Bill Clegg**

He may be better known as a literary agent and memoirist,

but Clegg's debut novel—about a woman named June who loses her entire family in one fell swoop—has been long-listed for the Man Booker Prize.

SEPT. 15 **Fates and Furies** **Lauren Groff**

In Groff's stunning novel, one seemingly perfect marriage (and its secrets) is shown from both sides over 24 years.

SEPT. 29 **The Heart Goes Last** **Margaret Atwood**

Atwood trains her oft-twisted eye on a down-on-their-luck married couple who stumble upon a town where residents can be comfortably unemployed...but there's a catch.

Gold Fame Citrus

Claire Vaye Watkins

As a drought cripples Southern California, some people are sent to internment

camps while others scavenge to survive.

OCT. 13 **City on Fire** **Garth Risk Hallberg**

It's hard to believe

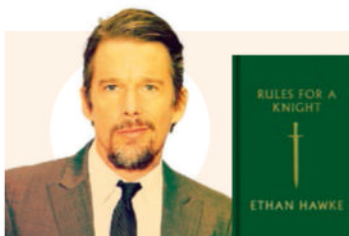
this layered, 944-page 1970s New York epic is a debut: The glitter and grime of the city's punk heyday are captured in gorgeous detail as multiple stories converge.

OCT. 20 **Welcome to Night Vale** **Joseph Fink & Jeffrey Cranor**

From the creators of the podcast comes this novel about a Southwestern town full of ghosts, aliens, and shape-shifters.

The Mark and the Void **Paul Murray**

The financial crisis is drenched in humor in this tale about a banker whose life becomes more interesting when a downtrodden author starts fictionalizing it.



Rules for a Knight

Originally written for his children, **Ethan Hawke's** latest book is a parable full of lessons on virtue and nobility. Set in 1483, the sweet, imaginative work takes the form of a letter that Sir Thomas Lemuel Hawke, a Cornish knight, writes to his four children on the eve of a battle. Hawke (Ethan) is a well-read autodidact, and his passion for philosophy, both Eastern and Western, shows. (Nov. 10)



NOV. 3

The Japanese Lover

Isabel Allende

The global best-seller's latest saga traces the love story between a Japanese gardener and a Polish refugee in World War II-era San Francisco.

The Mare

Mary Gaitskill

When a young girl from Brooklyn stays with a wealthy upstate New York couple through the Fresh Air Fund, she learns to ride horses, and a new world unfolds.

Twain & Stanley Enter Paradise

Oscar Hijuelos



This fictional account of the friendship between Mark Twain and explorer Sir Henry Morton Stanley is a brilliant posthumous capstone to the Pulitzer Prize winner's legacy.

Avenue of Mysteries

John Irving

Lupe, at 13, can read minds, though she sees the past more clearly than the future. Years later, her brother reflects on their childhood in Mexico and the memories that haunt him.

Tell-All Memoirs and Bios

SEPT. 1

Alexander McQueen

Andrew Wilson

Wilson's compelling

and heavily researched bio of the iconic fashion designer—who committed suicide in 2010—has already been published to rave reviews in Britain.

SEPT. 15

Why Not Me?

Mindy Kaling

These musings and stories from the star and creator of *The Mindy Project* are every bit as whimsical as the ones in 2011's *Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me?*

OCT. 20

Home Is Burning

Dan Marshall

When he was 25, Marshall's dad was diagnosed with ALS and his mom with cancer. So he quit his job to return home and care for them. Sounds depressing, but it's actually scathing, funny, profane, and deeply affectionate.

NOV. 3

John le Carré

Adam Sisman

Le Carré, whose real name is David Cornwell, is one of our most important post-war authors, yet we know very little about him—until now.

NOV. 10

Dear Mr. You

Mary-Louise Parker



In her much-buzzed-about memoir, Parker

tells her story through letters she's written to men—real and imagined—in her life over the years.

HAWKE: CINDY ORD/GETTY IMAGES

Women Who Rock and Write



Reckless
CHRISSIE HYNDE

She may be a Pretender, but Hynde's witty telling of her life story—an Ohio childhood that led to a trailblazing rock career—is definitely not make-believe. (Sept. 8)



Never Broken
JEWEL

During 20 years of Jewel's fame, we've learned bits about her: She yodels; she grew up in Alaska; she once lived in her van. Now she fills in the missing pieces. (Sept. 15)



I'll Never Write My Memoirs
GRACE JONES

The eternally edgy singer, actress, and model reflects on her glamorous history, from Studio 54 to Paris to Hollywood. Her only lie is in the title. (Sept. 29)



M Train
PATTI SMITH

In her experimental follow-up to the National Book Award-winning *Just Kids*, Smith dreamily muses on her life through the lens of the cafés she's frequented. (Oct. 6)



Hunger Makes Me a Modern Girl
CARRIE BROWNSTEIN

The Sleater-Kinney icon and *Portlandia* star writes about reinventing herself during the feminist punk-rock movement. (Oct. 27)



Boys in the Trees
CARLY SIMON

Simon's memoir covers her Greenwich Village folk roots, her song-writing stardom, and her marriage to James Taylor. (Nov. 24)

Riveting Nonfiction

SEPT. 8

The Making of Home **Judith Flanders**

When did houses evolve into homes? You'll find out in Flanders' lively trek through some 500 years of history.

SEPT. 29

Scream **Margee Kerr**

Why do we like to be scared? Kerr, a sociologist, doesn't just parse the latest research, she also tests it by skydiving, hanging from tall buildings with cables, and the like.

OCT. 27

The Witches **Stacy Schiff**



The Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *Cleopatra* has traded Egypt for Massachusetts in this look at the Salem witch trials.

NOV. 3

The White Road **Edmund de Waal**

De Waal, author of the extraordinarily beautiful family memoir *The Hare With the Amber Eyes*, has managed to turn the history of porcelain into a gripping page-turner.

Hot New YA

SEPT. 1

Everything, Everything **Nicola Yoon**

This wrenching story of first love, told

through a mix of narrative, online chats, emails, and journal entries, follows Maddy, whose rare disease renders her unable to leave the house, as she falls for the boy next door.

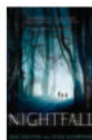
SEPT. 22

The Thing About Jellyfish **Ali Benjamin**

When Suzy's best friend drowns, she convinces herself that the true cause of death was a jellyfish sting, leading her on a journey across the globe.

Nightfall

Jake Halpern & Peter Kujawinski



In the island world of this cinematic thriller, 14 years of continuous daylight are followed by 14 years of night. Humans must migrate as the sun sets, but somehow three kids get left behind—and encounter terrible nocturnal creatures.

OCT. 6

Orbiting Jupiter **Gary D. Schmidt**

Joseph, a teenager living in foster care, has never met his daughter, Jupiter, born when he was only 13. Tormented, he and a friend strike out to search for her.

OCT. 27

The Death and Life of Zebulon Finch

Daniel Kraus
Teen gangster Zebulon Finch was murdered in 1896. Since then, he's been

walking across the earth, trying to figure out why he was killed—and why he can't actually die.

DEC. 22

This Raging Light **Estelle Laure**

Unable to rely on her parents, 17-year-old Lucille cares for her little sister herself, leaving no room to focus on her own life, but everything changes when she falls in love.

Pulse-Pounding Thrillers

SEPT. 8

Make Me **Lee Child**

Child, who may be

the most consistently good thriller writer out there, has again spun a feverishly paced tale featuring one of modern fiction's most iconic characters, badass retired military cop Jack Reacher.

SEPT. 15

The Drowning **Camilla Läckberg**

Läckberg, a Swede, appeared in the wake of Stieg Larsson and Henning Mankell, but she deserves to stand out for her quietly masterful series starring a cop and his writer wife.

SEPT. 22

The Killing Lessons **Saul Black**

After two men show up at a remote





Colorado farmhouse, they mow down

everyone except a 10-year-old girl, whom they pursue after she escapes into the snow.

OCT. 27 **Dark Corners** Ruth Rendell

In this novel of psychological terror, things go very, very badly when a young man decides to rent a room in his newly inherited London home to a stranger. A spectacularly creepy and macabre tale from Rendell,

who died last year at age 85.

Graphic Adventures

SEPT. 1 **Ann Tenna** Marisa Acocella Marchetto



Marchetto—who memorably chronicled her bout with breast cancer in her last book—is back with a stunning, funny graphic novel about a top gossip columnist who questions her career after

an encounter with her double from a parallel universe.

SEPT. 8 **Honor Girl** Maggie Thrash

The *Rookie* writer has created an unflinching coming-of-age memoir about finding unexpected love at an all-girls camp.

SEPT. 15 **The Marvels** Brian Selznick

In Selznick's first book since *Wonderstruck*, two story lines about an English family—one completely in pictures, one in words—converge.

SEPT. 22 **The Sleeper and the Spindle** Neil Gaiman & Chris Riddell

Gaiman's gorgeous words and Riddell's illustrations combine to dazzling effect in this bitterly funny, reimagined fairy tale.

OCT. 6 **Killing and Dying** Adrian Tomine

Tomine's graphic story collection is an emotional meditation on mortality, family, and the creative life.

NOV. 3 **City of Clowns** Daniel Alarcón

Artist Sheila Alvarado illuminates Alarcón's poignant story about a tabloid journalist in Lima, Peru, who records the lives of the street clowns roaming the city.

Trashed Dorf Backderf

From the creator of *My Friend Dahmer* comes a fascinating and hilarious paean to trash collectors that will change the way you see garbage day.

Dream Worlds

SEPT. 22 **The Scorpion Rules** Erin Bow

To keep the peace in this saga of the future, the U.N. holds

children of world leaders hostage: Wage war, and your kid dies. But what happens when those kids learn to think for themselves?

Lightless C.A. Higgins

This riveting sci-fi debut follows a computer scientist as she defends her military spacecraft from a skilled pair of terrorists.

Beastly Bones William Ritter

The sequel to last year's *Jackaby* finds the supernatural detective and his assistant, Abigail, hunting down a

pack of murderous shape-shifters.

SEPT. 29 **Six of Crows** Leigh Bardugo

When six outcasts, led by a criminal genius, band together to complete a heist, the group's friction may become its biggest obstacle.

OCT. 6 **Ancillary Mercy** Ann Leckie

The conclusion to Leckie's award-winning trilogy has Breq struggling to save her ship and crew from an unhinged enemy.

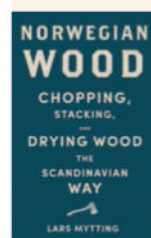
OCT. 20 **Illuminae** Amie Kaufman & Jay Kristoff

In the first book of a trilogy, Kady and Ezra have just broken up, their planet is at war, a deadly disease is spreading, and they might be the only ones who can figure out what's happening.

NOV. 3 **The Man Who Spoke Snakish** Andrus Kivirähk



This translated Estonian treasure follows the adventures of a boy who is the last remaining speaker of Snakish, an ancient language by which he can command any animal.



Norwegian Wood

For evidence of the current tech-fatigued obsession with all things hands-on and outdoorsy, look no further than **Lars Mytting's** smash Scandinavian hit, which details how to chop and store your own firewood. (Sept. 15)



The Bullseye



Gavin Rossdale and Gwen Stefani split: Because America can't have nice things.



Reba McEntire and Narvel Blackstock split: Because Nashville can't have nice things.



Ashley Tisdale debuts lifestyle site *The Haute Mess*, and honestly we're not all in this together.



Meek Mill vs. Drake is the feud we didn't know we needed. And actually, we don't.



R.I.P. Cecil. As far as famous lions we weren't aware of until recently go, you were our favorite.



What is this, a teaser trailer for ants!?



If you had Queen Latifah on your list of people who would play *The Wiz*, then you might actually be a wizard.



Between Kelly Ripa's broken foot and Jimmy Fallon's hurt finger, talk-show host is now the most hazardous job in America.



HBO mulling *Game of Thrones* prequel, where Cat Lynd Stark comes of age in an all-female boarding school run by Septa Garrett.



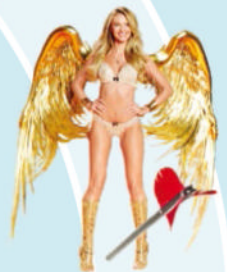
Little Women exclusive: Jo talks Beth's [spoiler!] and a new love interest for Marmee



Who knew we'd love B-613-chelor in *Paradise* so much?!



Exciting first look at Bullseye's dream wedding!



Victoria's Secret models say they're ready for a plus-size Angel, so congrats to a lucky size 2 out there!



To paraphrase RuPaul, the new *Dungeons & Dragons* film will have Charisma, Strength, Constitution, Dexterity, Intelligence, and Wisdom.



Meet the *Difficult People* you'll love to hate.



Patricia Arquette to voice a witch in *Troll: The Rise of Harry Potter, Jr.* Thanks, Academy.



James Woods sues a Twitter user for \$10 million in grumpy-old-man damages.



Peeps movie, meet your double-feature partner (at half the calories!).

WOODS: BRYAN HAPPA/WIREIMAGE.COM; LITTLE WOMEN: JOSEPH LEDERER; PEZ: JENGPANTH/MISTOCK; JON STUART: MARTIN GROOK/COMEDY CENTRAL; ADLE AND BETTE MIDLER: @GETTIDLER; ANGEL: DIMITRIOS KAMBOURIS/GETTY IMAGES; DUNGEONS & DRAGONS: SIMON HAYTER/GETTY IMAGES; ARQUETTE: D.D.PASQUINI/GETTY IMAGES; DIFFICULT PEOPLE: E. MINOZZI/HULU (2); LATIFAH: BENNETT FAGUN/GETTY IMAGES; GAME OF THRONES: HILL ENGLAND/HBO; FALLON: ALESSIO BOTTICELLI/UCI IMAGES; RIPA: FORTUNATA SPASH/NEWS; MILL: PAPA GRIFIN/GETTY IMAGES; DRAKE: KARVALY TANG/WIREIMAGE.COM; CECIL THE LION: ANDY LOVERIDGE/AP IMAGES; RONDA ROUSEY: JEFF BOTTA/GETTY IMAGES; MCENTIRE AND BLACKSADOCK: FRAZER HARRISON/GETTY IMAGES; ROSSDALE AND STEFANI: DAVID BECKER/GETTY IMAGES



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